

Rifkind had 'no advance warning' on Ravenscraig mill closure

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

SIR Robert Stobey, chairman of British Steel, gave Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, no advance warning of the company's plans to close the Ravenscraig strip mill at a private meeting held 12 days before the announcement.

That disclosure yesterday by Mr Rifkind in a Commons debate took some steam out of the Opposition onslaught on him for being a "passive spectator" in the affair, which poses an immediate threat to 770 jobs in Motherwell and casts a shadow over the long-term future of the plant. It also served to underline the divisions that have opened

up between Mr Rifkind and the senior management of British Steel, already strained by his attack on the company for not providing figures to back the case for closure.

Yesterday in the Commons, Mr Rifkind said that he still wants British Steel to change its mind, but he added that a "contingency plan" is being drawn up by the Scottish Office, the Scottish Development Agency and local authorities to find alternative employment for those affected if the closure goes ahead next year.

It is understood that Mr Rifkind feels "let down" by Sir Robert's failure to forewarn him about a decision with far-reaching political and economic reper-

cussions in Scotland. While setting out the facts of his department's contacts with British Steel, Mr Rifkind refrained from any direct criticism of Sir Robert.

The secretary of state has been under sustained pressure from Labour since last Wednesday for allegedly failing to forestall British Steel's move. He has also been under attack from English Tories for seeking to substitute his own commercial judgement for that of a private company. With the Prime Minister and other senior Cabinet ministers, however, formally supporting his stance yesterday, his position seemed stronger.

Yesterday, Mr Donald Dewar, the shadow Scottish secretary, pressed home the Opposition assault, accusing him of

pursuing an "unsound strategy" through his prolonged inactivity.

Mr Rifkind said that the suggestion that the Scottish Office had no contacts with the company over the past few months was "completely bogus".

There had been "frequent" telephone contacts between Scottish Office officials and British Steel both at plant manager and chief executive level, he said. Three weeks ago, he had asked Sir Robert to discuss with him a Scottish Office paper on plate steel investment.

"He replied that he was willing to do so but particularly wished to see me on May 15 as his board was meeting the previous day. He wished to inform me before anyone else of decisions likely to

be taken by his board. "I asked him to come and see me before the board meeting. We had an informal meeting on May 3. He gave no information at that time as to the proposals likely to be put to his board."

Mr Rifkind did tell Sir Robert that he would oppose any decision to close the strip mill. "I made clear to him that if the board was to consider the future of the hot strip mill, I very much hoped, given its contribution to British Steel's profitability, would not be closed, as that would have implications for Ravenscraig as a whole, and that I would find it necessary to express my views in the event of such an announcement."

• Mr Rifkind yesterday joined Mr

Tommy Brennan, the Ravenscraig shop stewards' convenor, in backing the workers' determination to save the plant from closure (Kerry Gill writes).

It is widely considered that the whole plant could close within four years unless either British Steel is persuaded to change its mind or Ravenscraig is sold to a new buyer.

After meeting Mr Rifkind in Edinburgh, Mr Brennan praised the stance he was taking and said: "We are not here to support a lame duck. We are here saying that Ravenscraig is a viable plant. It is consistently performing at 2.33 man hours per tonne, the best within the whole of Europe, and probably alongside the best in the world."

TED BATH

Over 1,000 inmates write to riot inquiry

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

THE official inquiry into the Strangeways jail riot and its aftermath has received more than 1,000 letters from prisoners anxious to explain why the disturbances occurred and to propose remedies.

By the time the inquiry's second phase opens in October, possibly thousands more inmates will have made written submissions to the inquiry headed by Lord Justice Woolf. The judge, who started the Home Office when he announced that he would be inviting every prison officer and inmate to say what was wrong with Britain's prisons, was said last night to be delighted.

About 600 of the 2,800 inmates at the six jails affected by last month's riots have written to the inquiry team explaining why they felt their prisons were involved. Another 400 have written about the service's broader problem. Some 600 staff have also written to the inquiry.

Prisoners and staff were told that written submissions to the inquiry's first phase - in which Lord Justice Woolf hopes to construct a detailed picture of the riots at Dartmoor, Manchester, Bristol, Cardiff, Glen Parva and Pucklechurch prisons - had to be made by yesterday evening. Letters for the second stage must arrive by September 1.

The Prison Reform Trust said it was pleased so many prisoners had written. "It is vitally important that the prisoners' voice is one of the loudest to be heard."

Two men released recently had been identified as rioters at Strangeways, Manchester magistrates were told yesterday.

Mr Bernard Donnelly, for the prosecution, said David Bowen, aged 26, and Yuri Harewood, aged 29, were the first to be charged in regard to the unrest. Both were remanded in custody until May 29, accused of riot by using or threatening unlawful violence.

Prisons chief urges firm date to end slopping-out

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

MINISTERS were urged yesterday by Judge Tumim, Chief Inspector of Prisons, to set a firm date before the decade ended, to end the "humiliation" of slopping out in jails.

He said it was "desperately important" that the Home Office took up his challenge, as installing internal sanitation in cells was necessary to achieve broader improvements in the penal system. Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, promised last week that 75 per cent of cells would have their own lavatories by 1994 but refused to guarantee that slopping-out would be abolished entirely by 2000.

Judge Tumim, one of the two judges heading the government-appointed inquiry into the recent jail riots, told delegates. However, it would be foolish to create a code before curing fundamental inadequacies, including the lack of decent sanitation. "Bluntly, you can't have minimum standards without drains."

Judge Tumim, whose views carry considerable weight at the Home Office, though he is often critical of penal conditions, said he was anxious about the effect stress was having on prison officers and governors.

He expressed the hope, which seems likely to be fulfilled, that inmates should be held at Strangeways prison while the £60 million refurbishment was carried out after the riot at the Manchester prison. He said: "I would like to see some prisoners kept there, if only to show the world that Manchester was not broken in any way by what happened."

It has emerged that the union banned the Home Office from sending formal observers to the conference, which began yesterday. Mr John Bartell, the union's chairman, said it appeared management wanted to hear first-hand the warnings the union had been given for the past three years. Earlier, he had told delegates that the Home Office wanted to drive a wedge between the union's leaders and members.

Mr Bartell said at a press conference that there had been a complete breakdown in the Prison Service's industrial relations. "We have no confidence in the management of the service." The conference comes on the eve of a ballot of the union's 24,000 members over industrial action in support of claims of prison staff that morale will continue to suffer."

He said creating a more stable and useful service in the long term depended on increasing activities for inmates.

"Although I'm appalled about the state of sanitation, although I'm distressed by the overcrowding, it is above all the lack of occupation of sensible training that worries me most of all."

The judge praised the union for pressing the Home Office to establish legally enforceable minimum standards covering prison conditions, such as exist in the United States. It was crucial that any such code was statutory. "If you have standards they have to be enforced by the courts," he said.

Officers 'locked themselves in cell during prison riot'

TWO prison officers, fearing for their lives, locked themselves in a cell while rioting inmates tried to batter down the door. Liverpool Crown Court was told yesterday.

The officers were rescued when prison staff at Risley remand centre in Cheshire smashed through the brickwork from outside the third-floor cell, Mr Maurice Kay, QC, for the prosecution, said. Twenty inmates deny charges of riot and criminal damage after the three-day disturbance in May last year, which Mr Kay said caused £250,000 damage.

Mr Kay said Mr Ian Frith and Mr Ian Hardy were isolated on the top floor of D wing when trouble broke out on the floor below on May 1. Violence erupted on the top floor where they were on duty, fearing that they may be taken hostage and that their lives were at risk, they locked themselves in a cell at the end of the wing, Mr Kay said.

Doors were torn off and used as battering rams, brick

walls between cells were smashed. "Before very long the prisoners were out of control and were uncontrollable," he said.

A heavy metal gate at the end of the corridor was broken down and a barricade was erected by inmates on the middle floor of the block. Staff in riot gear trying to reach their colleagues in the top floor cell were driven back by a hail of bricks.

Mr Kay said there was a "determined effort" by the prisoners to reach the two officers and attack them. "The prisoners battered the door of the cell and the brickwork from the adjacent cell in order to get at them. They poked broom handles through at the two officers who were understandably terrified in the face of repeated threats."

Colleagues on ladders loosened bricks in the outside wall and passed them a sledgehammer to break their way out. Later prisoners broke their way on to the flat roof forming the central section of

the H-shaped block and on to the high roof of D wing. Mr Kay said that for the next two days they were "destructive and violent" and threw bricks and other debris at prison officers.

More than 40 men were involved but it was not practical to try that number in a court at one time.

Mr Kay said that on April 30 last year there was a violent disturbance in B wing and some inmates were moved to D wing. D wing prisoners expressed concern that this might lead to a restriction on visiting.

The next morning, when the trouble broke out, about 80 inmates had been in the exercise yard and officers sensed there was going to be trouble. At the end of the exercise period there was a general movement of prisoners to one end of D wing.

Two officers heard glass

breaking and when the prisoners were ordered to return to their cells violence erupted. The case continues today.

Pleasure dome remains pile of rubble

By David Young

MRS Thatcher did not turn up and trumpets did not sound. In fact, it was all rather dismal at 2.30pm at Battersea Power Station yesterday when the massive monument to British electrical engineering was due to be officially opened as a pleasure dome for future generations of Londoners.

Instead, the pigeons quietly roosted among the rubble from which Mr John Broome, creator of the very successful Alton Towers, had planned an oceanarium and Disneyland-style attractions. At least, the sun was shining, even if it was frequently hidden by clouds of dust blown up from the derelict landscape.

Local protesters to the project provided their own version of Mrs Thatcher, but attractive as she was she lacked that certain something. The project was launched in 1988 by Mrs Thatcher, who described Mr Broome as a "man of enterprise and vision". She had agreed officially to open the new leisure centre yesterday at precisely 2.30 when,

in 1988, she said: "This colossal undertaking has that touch of pure genius, tinged with English eccentricity, that has always made Britain great."

Mr Broome had told people to be on time for the ceremony. "If you're minutes late you'll miss it," he said.

Over the past two years the scheme has lurched from problem to problem and at 2.30pm the Prime Minister was across the Thames at the Chelsea Flower Show. The roof is now off the power station, one wall has been removed and there is talk locally of it being converted into a mosque.

Mr Broome has been forced by Security Pacific, the bank which led the syndicate to finance the project, to sell Alton Towers to the Pearson Group for £60 million in March to meet debt payments. The Alton Group, Mr Broome's private company, has submitted a planning application with the Dutch private company ICA Holdings to develop the site and two adjoining parcels of land, one owned by Omni

Holdings, the other by British Rail. The original leisure centre plans remain part of the new scheme but the new application includes the addition of two 22-storey hotels, 1.25 million square feet of office space, 64,000 square feet of shopping and a 750,000 square foot exhibition and conference centre. The plans have yet to be considered by Wandsworth council's planning committee, which is conducting an inquiry into the increased traffic that the proposed scheme will create.

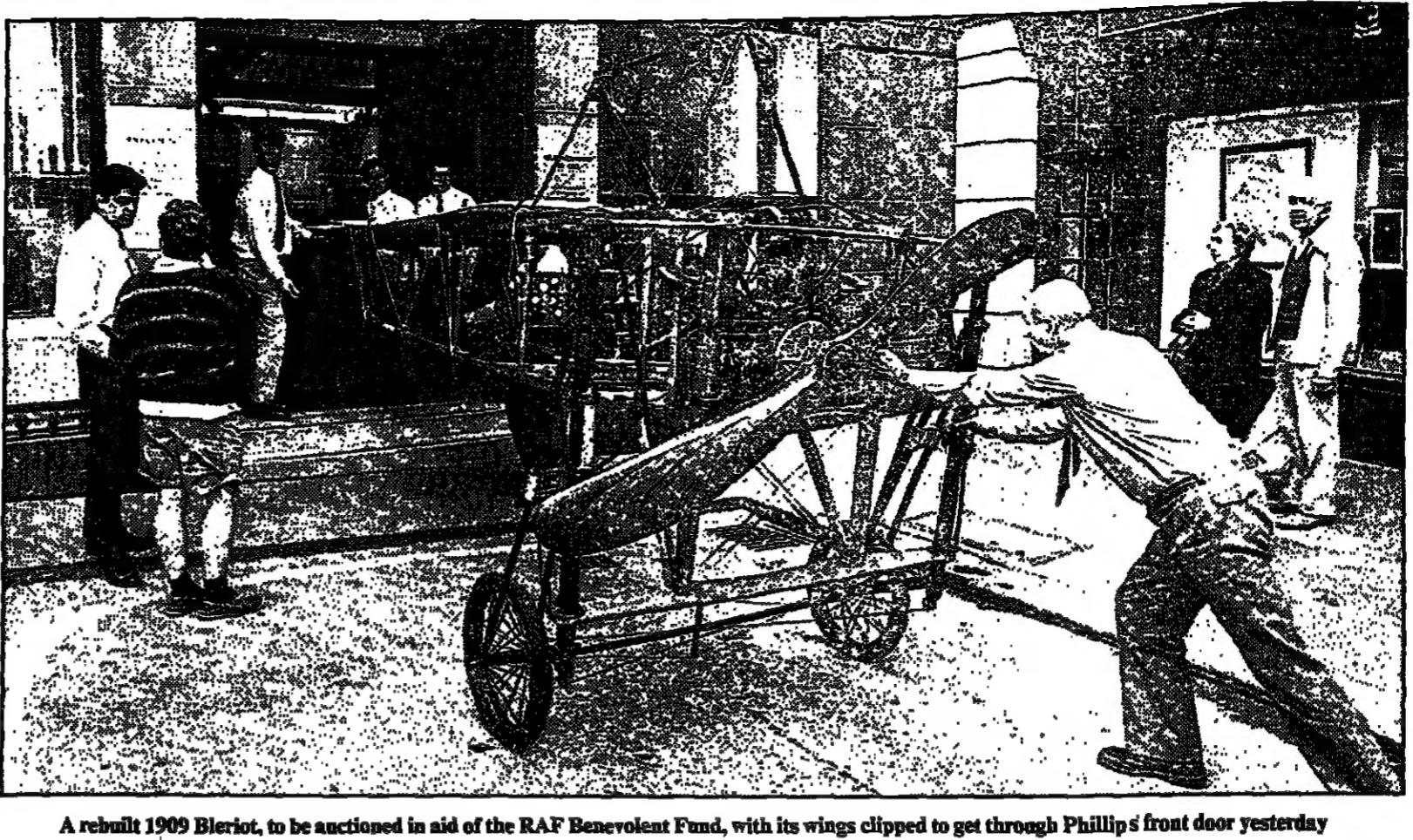
The planning committee will also be presented with an application from the Battersea Power Station Community Group, which proposes setting up a local charitable trust that will use the existing structure and would house a residential area, sporting and recreation areas, a museum and industrial workshops. Mr Brian Barnes, the group chairman, said: "John Broome's scheme is failing to materialize. The doubt has always been present about the future of the power station is ever increasing."

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Over the past 23 years, Mr Broome, a language teacher at Anderson High School in Lerwick, Shetland, has spent the long, dark evenings of those latitudes learning one language after another.

Mr Chris Price, director of Leeds Polytechnic, and local children getting the hang of new equipment at the opening of White City adventure playground, west London, yesterday. The equipment has been made by a company which is providing bursaries for a diploma in playwork at the polytechnic



A rebuilt 1909 Bleriot, to be auctioned in aid of the RAF Benevolent Fund, with its wings clipped to get through Phillip's front door yesterday

Third cat studied for BSE links

By Michael Hornby
Agriculture Correspondent

VETERINARY scientists are conducting a post-mortem on the brain of a third cat suspected of having died from a disorder similar to the "mad cow" disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), which has killed more than 13,400 cattle.

The cat, from Derby, showed "nervous symptoms" before being put down. The case has been referred to the Government's Central Veterinary Laboratory in Weybridge, Surrey, which earlier this month diagnosed a case of spongiform encephalopathy in a Bristol cat. Brain tissue from a Belfast cat, suspected by pathologists in Northern Ireland of having succumbed to the same disease, is also being examined by

Weybridge laboratory. It may be several weeks before a definite diagnosis is possible.

Ministry of Agriculture officials said yesterday that there was no necessary link between the form the illness took in cats and BSE. Nervous symptoms can have other causes and it is also possible that a naturally occurring spongiform encephalopathy may have existed unnoticed for years in the cat population.

Vets all over Britain have been alerted to look out for the nervous behaviour and lack of limb coordination that is symptomatic of spongiform encephalopathy and to refer animals that do not respond to treatment and have to be put down to Weybridge for post mortems.

There is speculation that the cats could have got the disease via pet food containing offal from BSE-infected cattle

or scrapie-infected sheep (scrapie being the ovine form of spongiform encephalopathy). Cattle are believed to have been infected by eating feed concentrate containing sheep protein.

The vulnerability of cattle to infection is thought to have been increased by the fact that they are grass-eating by nature. Cats, however, are carnivores and there is nothing particularly unnatural in being fed on animal protein.

Scientists are uncertain whether human beings, which appear to be immune to scrapie in sheep, could be infected by eating BSE-infected meat. Earlier this month, a long-term programme was launched to monitor the incidence of the rare human version of spongiform encephalopathy, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, for any sign that it might be increasing as a result of exposure to BSE.

Lockerbie defence by airline

Pan-Am could not have prevented the Lockerbie disaster in 1988, Mr Peter McHugh, a senior vice-president of the airline, said in London yesterday. Pan-Am took exception to the "unfair treatment" it had received in last week's critical US Presidential Commission report on the bombing.

He disagreed that Pan-Am could have done something to prevent the bombing of flight 103, killing 270. Mr McHugh said: "I don't think there is anything that could have been done that day at the airport to stop that bomb getting on board."

Gas cooker risk

A survey by Trading Standards Offices in Greater Manchester to be published today shows that none of the six second-hand gas cookers it tested passed safety regulations. Figures show 30 people a year die due to faulty gas cookers and an estimated 12,000 are injured.

Lowry look-out

Seven paintings by L.S. Lowry, stolen from a house in Balfron, Stirlingshire last weekend, may soon be offered on the open market, police said yesterday. The paintings, valued at £750,000, include classic subjects by the naive Midlands artist such as "Home from the Pub".

Dog fighting

Thirty men and a boy aged 15, most from the north of England, appeared at Kirkcaldy Sheriff Court, Fife, yesterday, charged in connection with alleged offences involving illegal dog fighting. Their appearance comes after a big police operation at a farm in Kennoway, Fife, on Sunday.

27-hour charity

Independent Television's "Telethon", a 27-hour charity programme, begins on Sunday at 7pm. Celebrities and the general public will raise money for charities to support old people, children, disabled people, their carers and regional special needs. The 1988 event raised £23 million.

Flight delays

Flights from British airports to Greece are expected to be severely delayed today by a 24-hour strike of Olympic Airways flight and passenger handling staff at Greek airports that began last night.

Not cricket

John Whibley, a cricket captain, poured sodium chloride crystals over the square of his club, GEC Alsthom at Stafford, when he was dropped. Stafford magistrates were told yesterday. The pitch was unusable for weeks. Whibley, aged 36, was fined £150 after admitting criminal damage.

*Source: The Times overseas
Australia Sch*

الدبلوماسي

Maguire bomb plant rulings unsafe, QC says

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

NEW forensic evidence has made the conviction of the seven defendants in the Annie Maguire bomb factory case 14 years ago unsafe and unsatisfactory, Mr David Clarke, QC, leading counsel to a judicial inquiry, said yesterday.

If the inquiry led by Sir John May, the former Court of Appeal judge, accepts counsel's submission the Maguire convictions could be quashed. That would mean the overturning of a second IRA terrorist case from the 1970s within the space of seven months and increase pressure for action on the case of the six men convicted for the Birmingham bombings.

Speaking on the opening day of the full inquiry, set up to examine the Maguire and the Guildford Four cases, Mr Clarke said tests carried out for the inquiry by a professor of analytical chemistry questioned the Crown's claim that forensic tests showed the Maguire group had all handled PETN.

Nothing suggested that the tests could have been positive for any substance other than three explosives, but the defendants could have been contaminated by someone who had handled explosives, said Mr Clarke.

Speaking on the opening day of the full inquiry, set up to examine the Maguire and the Guildford Four cases, Mr Clarke said tests carried out for the inquiry by a professor of analytical chemistry questioned the Crown's claim that forensic tests showed the Maguire group had all handled PETN.

Nothing suggested that the

said: "There was substantially greater scope for such contamination of hands and gloves than the evidence of the Crown witnesses at the trial (which must have been accepted by the jury) suggested.

In particular the assertion that each male defendant must have manipulated or kneaded a primary source of contamination, that is, a quantity or bulk of explosive, is not borne out by subsequent investigations."

Whoever did touch explosive might not be one of the defendants, Mr Clarke said. It was quite impossible to conclude that anyone or more of the seven defendants could be implicated.

The case against the seven might also be considered unsafe and unsatisfactory because technically the Crown could not prove the explosive involved was nitro-glycerine, as the charges suggested, but another explosive called

Mr Clarke also raised questions about evidence apparently never passed to the defence, which might have raised questions about circumstantial evidence brought by the Crown.

Yesterday five of the six surviving Maguire defendants were at the inquiry to hear Mr Clarke make his submissions as the inquiry began three to

four weeks of evidence on the forensic details which led to sentences of up to 14 years at the Central Criminal Court in 1976.

Mr Clarke said the Maguire defendants had been included in the inquiry's remit because Mrs Maguire was first implicated by statements from two of the Guildford Four, Mr Gerry Conlon and Mr Paul Hill. Police arrested and charged Mrs Maguire, her husband Patrick, two of her sons, Vincent and Patrick, her brother, Sean Smith, Giuseppe Conlon (her husband's brother-in-law and the father of Gerry Conlon), and Patrick O'Neill, a friend.

The key to the trial lay with forensic scientists and evidence gathered with a technique known as thin-layer chromatography (TLC), which showed the six men had traces of explosive on their hands or fingernails; plastic gloves used by Mrs Maguire also showed explosive traces.

Mr Clarke said the prosecution case included some circumstantial evidence which did not constitute "evidence of either the existence of any quantity or bulk of explosive or of control of or possession by any of the defendants". But a prosecution witness, Mr Walter Elliott, from the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment, said the traces on the defendants' hands were from touching and manipulating, kneading explosive.

The inquiry asked Professor Duncan Thorburn Burns of Queen's University to carry out tests last month on the TLC system and the issue of contamination. The professor found that the TLC tests carried by the establishment over 15 years ago were done properly and produced no result other than nitro-glycerine and two other explosives, of which PETN was more significant.

The professor then considered contamination. At the trial four of the defendants said they had used towels in the bathroom of the Maguire's house. Professor Thorburn Burns kneaded a cartridge of explosive, washed his hands, drying them on a clean towel used by others.

Others who handled the items were then tested by both the TLC system and a more modern technique. The results showed that nitro-glycerine on hands can contaminate fingernails and those with traces had not touched the original explosive.

The inquiry continues today.



Damien Bruce, aged six, who has epilepsy, hand in hand with famous epileptic Julius Caesar (actor Moray Watson) and Napoleon (David Neville) at the launch in the City yesterday of Epilepsy Week. The society says that children at risk of severe epilepsy are not being diagnosed or treated properly and that many of the 50,000 children with the condition suffer because of a lack of sophisticated brain scanning equipment

M1 jury asked: was crew reckless?

By Harvey Elliot, Air Correspondent

THE inquest jury that must decide what caused the deaths of 47 people on board the British Midland airliner that crashed on the M1 in January last year was told yesterday that it must first consider a verdict of unlawful killing.

Mr Philip Tomlinson, the North Leicestershire coroner, said that was one of three possible verdicts, and the one that must be considered first. The other two were accidental death and an open verdict.

In his four-and-a-half-hour summing up, Mr Tomlinson reminded the jury of seven men and five women how the serviceable right-hand engine of the Boeing 737-400 had been shut down after passengers, cabin crew and the pilots had smelled smoke and heard and felt a severe vibration. He spoke of how a

fan blade snapped in the new engine, of the problems some experts said could exist in changing from old "needle" instruments to modern solid-state displays, of a whisp of smoke that led Captain Kevin Hunt to believe the problem was in the right-hand engine, and of the co-pilot Mr David McClelland's belief that the instruments must have indicated that the problem was in the right-hand engine before it shut it down.

Flying on one engine was a normal abnormal event and one for which the crew had been trained. All witnesses agreed that throttling back and shutting down the left-hand engine would have allowed the jet to have landed safely at East Midlands airport on only one engine.

"Were the actions of the crew in responding to that initial fan failure the determining factor, the overriding factor in causing the crash?" Mr Tomlinson asked. If the jury took that view, there were three possible verdicts.

"In the context of this case unlawfully killed means manslaughter. You will know that this is a most serious matter. It

is this potential possible verdict that you must consider first of all." For such a verdict to be returned, the coroner said, one person had to have been grossly negligent or to have acted recklessly. A simple error or inadvertence would not be enough.

"You may only return such a verdict if you can attribute the necessary ingredients that I have pointed out to you to one of the crew members who should not be named." He warned the jury that the law imposes a particularly high standard of proof for such a verdict and that they must be sure before doing so.

"You may think that what you have to decide is whether the closure of the right instead of the left-hand engine arose from gross recklessness on the part of one or other of the cockpit crew. You may think that there is a clear responsibility and duty upon the crew to deal with an emergency situation and that the paramount regard shall be to the passengers." They were dealing with an emergency that they had never encountered before and one that did not, to them, evolve

slowly but which clearly required action by them to respond to something that was not of their making.

"Does the evidence lead you to a conclusion that the crew were or might have been wrongly directed or misled or might have been misdirected to the right-hand engine, as opposed to the left, or is it the case that one or other or both of the cockpit crew were grossly negligent or reckless in the terms I have described to you? If you conclude that the crew were or might have been wrongly directed or misled by instrumentation then the verdict of unlawfully killed is not open to you."

In that case, the jury might return a verdict of accidental death. An accident, the coroner said, was something that "you and I sometimes cause or sustain" and which may or may not involve "an error, misjudgement or inadvertence". The last possible verdict was an open verdict, which should be returned only if there was insufficient evidence to reach one of the others.

The jury will be sent to consider its verdicts today.

World Cup ban for convicted hooligans

By Staff Reporters

A GROUP of Bolton Wanderers soccer fans who indulged in planned hooliganism against police and rival supporters have been banned from the World Cup by the Italian government.

Liverpool Crown Court was told that the names of the 34 men had been sent to the Italian authorities who had indicated that they would not be welcome. Nine of them were given prison or youth custody sentences of between 18 months and three years.

Mr John Jackson, for the prosecution, said the courts had powers under the Football Spectator's Act 1989 to ban convicted hooligans from specified matches outside the United Kingdom, but since they did not exist at the time of the offences he was not seeking such an order. "But the names and addresses of those convicted have been sent to the Italian authorities and they have indicated that such people will not be welcome during the World Cup."

The successful prosecution of Bolton Wanderers soccer hooligans, who spread violence and vandalism under such sobriquets as the Tongue Moor Slashers, the Astley Bridge Mob and the Billy Whizz Fan Club, was being hailed by the police and solicitors last night as a landmark after earlier, disastrous attempts to bring football gangs to court.

Sentencing the men, Judge Donald Hart, QC, described them as "not football supporters but football destroyers". There was no evidence that they had carried offensive weapons, but they had used casual weapons like bricks, timber and pub ashtrays.

If such behaviour was seen as the norm "it will follow as night follows day that decent, respectable people will regard football grounds and their facilities as no-go areas. People who have that as their enjoyment will be deprived of it. "Football clubs will find their income declining. Quite apart from the dispute it brings to the game, it will wither away from lack of people attending it."

The heaviest sentence – three years in a young offenders' institution – was passed on Steven Green, aged 19, of Millbeck Grove, Great Lever, Bolton, who admitted three charges of conspiracy to commit affray, two of affray, one of violent disorder and one of wounding. Green was also banned from soccer grounds for five years.

Stephen Ormerod, aged 27, of Ashworth Lane, Bolton, was jailed for 32 months and banned from grounds for five years. He admitted five charges. Kevin Taylor, aged 23, a packer, of Le Gendre Street, Bolton, who admitted four charges, received a two-year sentence and a four-year ban.

Others sentenced received community service orders of 75 hours or 95 hours, £400 fines, and bans of one year. The judge will continue sentencing other defendants today.

Iraqi gun driver's charges reduced

By Tom Giles

A GREEK appeals court prosecutor yesterday recommended that criminal charges against the British lorry driver accused of smuggling parts of an alleged Iraqi "supergun" into Greece be dismissed.

Lawyers representing the driver, Mr Paul Ashwell, said the decision by the prosecutor, Mr Nikos Tourlou, was binding and could lead to the early release of their client. Mr Ashwell was detained on April 21 by Greek customs officers on charges of smuggling arms into Greece.

Mr Alexandros Lykourgos, his solicitor, said the prosecutor had recommended that the charges, which carry a maximum sentence of 20 years, be reduced to that of a misdemeanour. "The prosecutor said there was no evidence that our client knew what he was hauling."

He added that a panel of three judges would consider the case within the next two

days. They would either recommend Mr Ashwell be tried for a misdemeanour or dismiss the case. In Greece, a misdemeanour carries a prison term of between six months and two years and the option of paying a fine.

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "The prosecutor argues that there is insufficient evidence that Mr Ashwell knew what he was carrying. Indeed he says there is evidence to the contrary, that he did not know what he was carrying."

Mr Ashwell, aged 26, from Northampton, was originally held in detention after British officials told Greek customs officers in the western port of Patras that the 30-ton steel tube on his lorry could be part of a giant artillery gun ordered by Iraq. He was released 10 days ago on £19,000 bail raised by a British newspaper. He is in Patras with his wife awaiting court proceedings.

Timeshare firms face legal curbs

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

NEW laws to regulate the activities of timeshare developers will be called for in proposals coming before the International Bar Association at its conference of world Bar leaders this week.

The package is aimed at giving buyers greater protection while not "unduly burdening developers", and comes amid mounting criticism of some timeshare developers who promote the industry through unsolicited mailshots.

If adopted at the conference in Venice, the proposals will mean increased pressure for legislation in all of the association's member states. Lawyers would adopt a uniform international code of practice on selling and managing timeshare units worldwide and then press for domestic legislation.

The Office of Fair Trading is expected to produce a report urging legislation to curb unscrupulous techniques. The new proposals have been drawn up by a group of international lawyers specializing in travel, tourism and property law.

SWIMMING safety experts have criticized British Gas for an advertisement showing a baby swimming under the sea. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) have warned parents of the dangers of babies swimming under water, particularly in light of limited research of the effects of water pressure on them.

The warning comes after a surge of interest shown in the advertisement by mothers wanting to teach their babies to swim under water. The advertisement, which pro-

motes gas water heating, was filmed in the Red Sea and shows a baby swimming with its mother among coral.

While the scene gives the impression of a deep sea setting, British Gas says that the four babies on the film set were never more than two feet below the surface. There was also a medical team on hand. However, RoSPA and the ASA say the advertisement should have been backed by a statement informing parents of water safety precautions.

British Gas admitted that the advertisement gave the illusion of deep water and that

that could be misinterpreted by parents. It emphasized, however, that "at every step of the way we sought professional legal and medical advice and we gained ITV and IBA approval for the advert."

The ASA said: "It is wise to err on the side of caution until more is known about water pressure on babies."

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Water baby and mother swimming in the Red Sea in the British Gas advertisement

No date has been set for the full hearing of the case.

National Gallery, said: Britain's museums and galleries are increasingly looking to loans and gifts instead of relying on buying in the marketplace where they cannot hope to compete at auction.

Mr Nicholas Serota, the director of the Tate Gallery, appealed last night for government help. "More and more of a director's and trustee's time is spent trying to persuade people to make loans, gifts or bequests, and it is extremely difficult – far more than in my predecessor's time," he said. "I believe the Government ought to make incentives available, perhaps not a full tax refund but a part of it, to encourage owners to make a commitment to national collections." National collections had, until recently,

been reluctant to accept loans, which are often made with the promise of eventual bequest.

"Along with all galleries, we have experienced a situation where the owner has reneged on the agreement after a number of years, when the price has become irresistible, and sold," Mr Serota said. The owner has by that time has the benefit of professional conservation and care, and government indemnity for an object that may cost hundreds of thousands to insure. "Now we are having to relax that view."

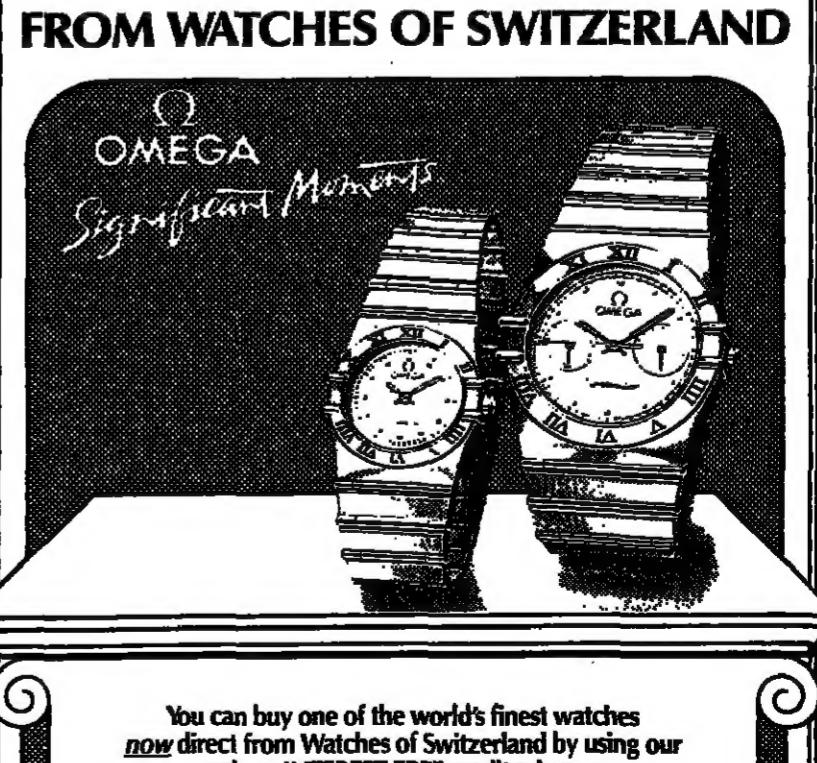
But there was also alarm among some curators at the secrecy with which the transaction was made and the extent to which the Berggruen loan, and possibly eventual bequest,

covers the Tate Gallery's agreed area of interest. The Picassos, Braques and Miró's are well out of the fields of collecting of the National Gallery. The two boards of trustees have agreed that the national should keep broadly to the 19th century, and the Tate to the modern period. Some clarification of the parameters is expected to be sought.

Two factors helped to bring off the Berggruen coup for the National Gallery: the completion of the Sainsbury Wing next spring, giving space to display modern paintings, and the nature of the gallery's collections of French Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings.

Leading article, page 15

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Businesses' crime loss over £5bn every year

By Mark Sowster

CRIME costs British businesses more than £5 billion a year, more than is spent on non-military research and development, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

It said many companies have failed to grasp the severity of the problem, which can wipe out half, if not all, their profits. Mr Steven Norris, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, and chairman of Crime Concern, set up by the Home Office, said the true cost to industry may be £10 billion.

The figures were disclosed at the launch in London of a joint CBI/Crime Concern report, *Crime - managing the Business Risk*, which is sponsored by the Midland Bank. It is hoped that the initiative detailed in the report will promote a greater awareness of the problem and persuade British business to invest more in crime prevention.

The report is designed to help businesses to draw up a strategy to prevent the huge losses caused by fraud, shoplifting, "shrinkage" or theft, as well as arson in shops,

Delay over inquiry criticized

By Kerry Gill

THE Crown was sharply criticized yesterday over the delay in opening the fatal accident inquiry into the death of a radio operator on the Ocean Odyssey drilling rig in September 1988. An explosion and fire led to the total evacuation of the installation.

Mr Timothy Williams, aged 25, of Greenhithe, Kent, died in the fire which took place less than three months after the Piper Alpha disaster in which 167 men died.

Mr Aiden O'Neill, advocate for Mr Williams's family, told the inquiry when it opened in Aberdeen yesterday that he had been asked to express the concern of the dead man's relatives about the length of time that had elapsed since the accident took place. The delay, he said, had caused them increasing distress.

Mr O'Neill asked Mr Colin Macaulay, counsel for the Crown, to explain why an application for the inquiry was made in February, 17 months after the accident.

Mr Ronald Ireland, Sheriff Principal for Grampian, was told that nothing said by any of the witnesses would be used against them in the event of criminal proceedings. Mr Macaulay said this was a limited arrangement for the purposes of the inquiry.

The inquiry continues today.

Disc-stored X-ray system heralds medical revolution

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A PIONEERING system of medical X-rays which does not rely on film and which should be safer, faster and more reliable, was launched in a £13 million government project yesterday.

The pilot scheme at Hammersmith Hospital, west London, will be the first in Britain and it is one of the first hospitals in the world to adopt the method. The digital radiology system means that patients are X-rayed in the usual way, but the images are stored on computer discs rather than film. That allows instant electronic transmission throughout the hospital without risk of loss or damage.

Specialists in different departments will be able to view the images on computer screens simultaneously and

make quicker diagnoses. Perfect images obtained at the first attempt should mean that patients need fewer X-rays.

Professor David Allison, director of the hospital's diagnostic radiology department, said: "It is going to change the way we practise medicine." The system is to be evaluated at Hammersmith during the next three years. If successful, it is likely to be introduced more widely.

Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the Minister of Health, announced funding for the system yesterday. "This is a real innovation in the field of medical science," she said. It would benefit Hammersmith Hospital staff and patients and provide information on how to improve radiology services in other centres. The system

will be installed as part of a new radiology department at Hammersmith. About £10 million of the £13 million total will be spent on equipment, the remainder going to building costs and fees.

The project uses what is called the Picture Archiving and Communication System. The technology behind it has been developed by X-ray manufacturers in Europe, Japan and the United States.

Professor Allison said: "A great deal of work has to be done before it takes the place completely of conventional X-ray systems, but it has tremendous potential. The days of wasting hours searching for lost X-rays and transporting them from one end of a hospital to another are numbered."

Mappa's return fails to ease cathedral's plight

By Craig Seton

THE DEAN and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral welcomed yesterday the return of the 13th-century map of the world, the Mappa Mundi, but said they did not regret their decision 18 months ago to send it to Sotheby's for auction, despite the national outcry. They said saving the unique map for the nation had not solved the cathedral's desperate financial plight.

The Mappa Mundi, which the cathedral authorities had wanted to sell for £7 million to pay for urgent repairs and running costs, has been on exhibition at the British Library in London and was returned to Hereford, where it went on public display in the city yesterday for the first time since it was withdrawn from sale.

The dean and chapter said yesterday they were still many millions of pounds short of money for urgent

repairs, even though the map's return to Hereford had been secured by a grant of £2 million from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and a further £1 million from Mr John Paul Getty Jr, the millionaire philanthropist. The money will be used to provide a new building to house the Mappa Mundi and the cathedral's other great treasure, the medieval Chained Library.

At yesterday's unveiling ceremony at the cathedral, the map's home for nearly 700 years, the Very Rev Peter Haynes, the dean, said the Mappa Mundi saga had graphically highlighted the need for a national solution to the financial problems of preserving the country's cathedrals.

He said: "I do not regret what we did. There must be a long-term national solution for our cathedrals, which are of national importance and

part of our heritage. It cannot be left to crisis management by deans and chapters every few years. It is nice to see the Mappa Mundi back, as long as people do not believe that saving the map is the saving of the cathedral. We were not crying wolf and what we did was not a publicity stunt. We had a single objective ... to secure the future of the cathedral."

He said that public appeals to raise money for cathedral repairs were not as successful as they used to be. Although the Mappa Mundi would now be found a permanent home in the city, where it could be shown to the public, the cathedral still needed at least £4 million of the £7 million target set two years ago. He said that, with increased costs and inflation, as much as £8 million might still be needed: "It is a bottomless pit."

The dean and chapter believe they

will need at least £4.5 million over the next 10 years to pay for repairs to the fabric of the cathedral and £1 million to provide an income of £100,000 a year for its foundations. Canon John Tiller, the chancellor of the cathedral, said the last of the £1 million raised in a public appeal begun in 1985 would be spent this year on repairs.

The Mappa Mundi, regarded as the greatest extant 13th-century manuscript, was drawn on a piece of vellum 64 inches by 54 inches in about 1290. It shows the world as a circle surrounded by seas, with Jerusalem at the centre. The £2 million from the National Heritage Memorial fund will help to secure the future of the map and the Chained Library and provide income for the cathedral, while the £1 million from Mr Getty will pay for the cost of a new exhibition centre for the treasures.

Anaesthetist struck off over death of boy from overdose

AN ANAESTHETIST involved in treatment resulting in the death of a boy aged nine was yesterday found guilty of serious professional misconduct by the General Dental Council, which recommended his name be struck off the register.

The council found that Mr George Brown, of St Mary's Crescent, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, had given an overdose of the anaesthetic to Darren Bamford, of Burleigh Road, Cheshunt; that he had failed to monitor the patient adequately and had failed to administer an anaesthetic to the boy. Mr Nitchin K-

echa, of Turner's Hill, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, aged 33, the dentist, was earlier cleared of failing to monitor the patient.

Mr Brown, aged 63, an experienced specialist anaesthetist, gave the boy more than twice the correct level of anaesthetic. Darren had 165 milligrams of the barbiturate drug after a miscalculation, when he should have had 30 milligrams. The boy suffered severe brain damage and died 10 days later.

Mrs Janet Bamford, his mother, said yesterday: "We are pleased a conclusion has been arrived at. It helped us to

understand what happened." She confirmed a civil action is going ahead against Mr Brown. The anaesthetist told the council yesterday that he had been haunted by the death of the boy and that he had felt "total terror" before giving patients anaesthetics since the operation.

Mr Brown said he still had no idea why Darren had died. His pulse had been normal throughout the 20-minute operation and all other signs indicated nothing unusual. At the time he did not own a patient monitoring device called a pulse oximeter but he had since bought one.



Soldiers must wait as a Wren draws special attention before the 8th Battalion The Queen's Royal Fusiliers, London's newest Territorial Army unit, exercises its right to march through the City for recruiting purposes "with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed".

Vigilante chief is convicted firebomber

A SELF-styled street vigilante who has launched his own vigilante corps in Bristol based on the "Guardian Angels" yesterday admitted to having received a 21-month prison sentence in 1984 for fire-bombing a house.

Police in Bedfordshire, which pioneered many watch schemes, have been encouraging new groups. More than 1,600 schemes have been set up since the first one in 1983. Luton, which is seen as a "difficult" area, has built up a successful network that now includes a pyramid-style management structure, with 513 groups covering 20 per cent of all households. Recorded crime has dropped.

The first schemes were administered by local crime prevention officers and depended on officers on the beat. Mr Glynn Spalding, assistant chief constable of Bedfordshire, said: "Communication was unprofessional and unrealistic promises were made about visits to home-watch groups. Dissatisfaction reached a level where in some respects it was debatable whether the schemes were doing more harm than good."

In 1987, an innovative regional structure was introduced on 16 beats based on electoral wards, enabling the local people, local council and local beat officers to get together. A co-ordinator was appointed for each area. Mr Tony Woolf, chairman of Luton Homewatch, said: "We are lucky because the police have been very helpful and invested time and money. They are willing to listen... A scheme can only succeed if the police and the people want to form their own chapter."

Mr Woolf said companies treated crime prevention in an "extraordinary throwaway fashion". Businesses also suffered through the effect of crime on people.

"Millions of people are affected - employees, shareholders and customers. The cost is not purely financial. There is an equally significant human loss counted in fear, injury, illness and stress," he said.

Investment in crime prevention would make communities better places in which to live.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, said the "horrifying losses" meant that crime prevention should be a fully integrated function of top management. He added that car crime was responsible for the entire increase in crime statistics in the past decade, and called on car manufacturers to improve security on new models.

The inquiry continues today.

Supermarket lures staff with pension equality

By Tim Jones, Employment Correspondent

THE supermarket war to recruit and retain staff intensified yesterday when Gateway announced that male employees will be able to join female staff in retiring at 60 with full pension benefits.

Food retailers are locked into a growing struggle to attract staff in the face of a diminishing labour force because of the so-called "demographic time bomb". The battle between retailers is, in particular, about enticing part-time workers, mainly women.

Gateway's 50,000 staff were told of the development before last week's "landmark" ruling of the European Court of Justice that means that British firms will have to phase in equal pension ages for men and women under occupational pension schemes. Indeed, amid fears that the ruling could cost pension funds as much as £2 billion a year unless the debt to society and now my debt to society and now I am committed to making full amends by protecting my health.

He said yesterday: "I certainly regret what happened years ago, but since then I have represented my country at the Olympics as well as doing considerable social work. I feel I have paid my debt to society and now I am committed to making full amends by protecting my health.

Mr Waite launched the Guardians on the day the Guardian Angels, wearing their distinctive red berets and led by Mr Colin "Gabriel" Hatcher, marched into Bristol on a "fact-finding mission". They are to stay in Bristol for three days to advise local crime fighters how to form their own chapter.

The visit has sparked a storm of protest from police and community leaders, particularly as Miss Samantha Jones, an Angels spokesman, has vowed to teach would-be crime fighters how to make crooks "suck concrete". Mr Hatcher, aged 31, the London chapter leader, promised the group would not provoke tension and violence when they toured the sensitive areas of St Paul's and Southmead, scenes of past rioting.

"Our uniforms are a deterrent that actually stops trouble breaking out. We have come to Bristol in answer to pleas from hundreds of people who are frightened of street crime and want to learn how to defend themselves from it."

Mr Sebastian Metz, a Canadian-born Angel, said: "Making crooks suck concrete may sound a little harsh, but if we draw a line and if the lawbreakers step over it... we come down on them hard and fast."

The Angels marched, military-style, into the main Broadmead shopping centre and got a cool reception.

"They're more frightening than any criminal," an elderly woman said. "I'd run a mile if I saw one of them crossing the road towards me."

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Car bomb soldiers honoured

Two soldiers who pulled an injured military policeman from his burning car after an IRA bomb attack, have received the Queen's Commendation for Bravery Conduct.

Lieutenant Michael Simpson, aged 26, and Sergeant Martin Snook, aged 35, rescued Sergeant Andrew Mudd after the attack in Colchester, Essex, in November. Moments after pulling him clear, the car's petrol tank exploded, engulfing the vehicle in flames. The two men gave first aid to Sergeant Mudd, who lost both legs, and his wife, Margaret.

The Ministry of Defence praised Lieutenant Simpson's "resolute leadership and considerable personal courage", and Sergeant Snook for his "calmness and presence of mind".

Libel damages

Police Constable Barry Pawden has accepted "substantial" libel damages against the *Newspaper of the World*, the *Rutland and Stamford Mercury*, and the *Peterborough Evening Telegraph* over stories alleging he was involved with a woman while on duty in Stamford, Lincolnshire.

Yoghurt fine

Gordon Conrad, a food firm from Lambeth, south London, was fined £1,500 with £6,100 costs at Brighton Crown Court yesterday for distributing Greek sheep yoghurt that was, in fact, more than 50 per cent cows' milk. The cartons have since been relabelled.

Bought as seen

A black Ferrari owned by Valerio Vicei, who masterminded the Knightsbridge safe deposit robbery, fetched £88,000 at auction yesterday. The car was offered by Scotland Yard in the condition it was seized: dented front wings and the windscreen smashed by a truncheon.

Pressure of life

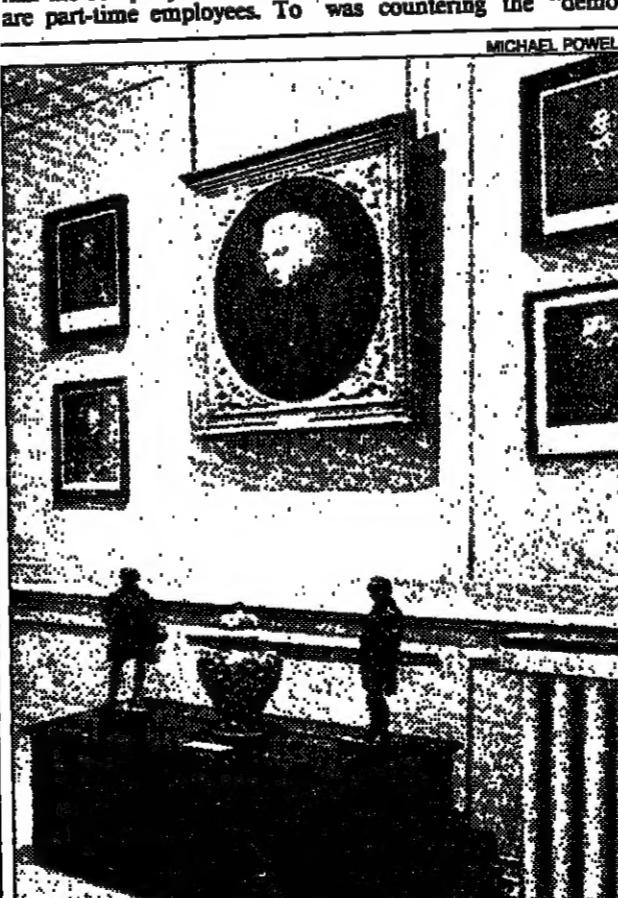
Mr Len Albin and his wife, Norma, who have had to call on friends at the bottom of the hill on which they live in Woodcote, Berkshire, to have a shower because of low water pressure, are to be linked to high pressure mains in time for their daughter's imminent wedding.

Campaign vote

The National Union of Public Employees voted at its conference in Blackpool yesterday to join a national campaign to free the Birmingham Six.

Self help

Police in Nottinghamshire are issuing do-it-yourself fingerprint kits to relieve pressure on fingerprint officers wanted at scenes of crimes.



Dr Johnson's portrait surveys a refurbished room

Ian McIntyre, page 14

Johnson's house to reopen

DR JOHNSON'S house in Gough Square, City of London, where he wrote his great dictionary, is to be reopened tomorrow after a six-month refurbishment (Simon Tait writes). Visitors, however, will not be able to see his home as he knew it.

Wal-to-wall carpets would have been alien to him, as would the chandeliers. The furniture is of the type that might have been there in his time.

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A colour selected because the human eye is one thousand times more sensitive at the periphery than at the centre, so the dashboard

is less of a distraction when driving.

It's also the colour to which the eye requires least adjustment.

So the driver can focus more quickly when he glances at the instruments.

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Which leaves just your sense of taste.

Well, having got this far, it's quite obviously impeccable.



THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE

Kirk 'deeply worried' over moves to relax drink licensing laws

MOVES to relax drink licensing laws further were opposed yesterday at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh.

The Rev Andrew McLean, convenor of the Kirk's board of social responsibility, said the board was "deeply worried" about such moves. Licensing laws had been imposed "because of the personal and economic damage caused by the unrestricted flow of alcohol".

Mr McLean said the Royal College of Psychiatrists had produced firm evidence that countries with the most liberal licensing laws have the highest alcohol-related mortality. The assembly was told, however, that Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, Scottish home af-

fairs minister, had rejected the offer of a meeting with the Kirk to discuss the issue.

The Rev William Wallace, of Wick, maintained that a minority of people favoured more liberal licensing. Only 2 per cent of the population wanted to shop on Sundays, he said. "Liberal legislation will do damage to our Scottish heritage." The assembly agreed to continue monitoring any changes in licensing and urged presbyteries and Kirk sessions to be aware of the implications of any change.

The assembly overwhelmingly rejected a minister's call to consider legalizing the use of drugs. The Rev John Cameron, of Broughty Ferry, said that

when alcohol prohibition laws were passed in the United States small-time crime had flourished and become big business. He said radical action had to be taken to stamp out criminal drug-pushers, but called on the assembly to consider the decriminalization of drug abuse and report its findings to next year's session.

However, Mr McLean said: "The present law serves the nation well." He called on the assembly to reject Mr Cameron's motion.

Kirk income increased by about £3.7 million last year, despite an 18,500 drop in membership, the assembly was told by the Rev Jack Beaumont, convenor of the board of stewardship and finance. He

said the 7.8 per cent increase in income — the largest recorded — had matched the rate of inflation in 1989 and showed that church members had responded to last year's warnings about Kirk finances.

The increase would have to be sustained in future years, if the church's work was to continue at its present level, Mr Beaumont said. But he was pleased with the increase. "The figure is encouraging, because it suggests that it is still possible for the income of the church to keep pace with inflation or even to exceed it, despite the continuing and sizeable fall in church membership."

A strategic plan, designed to strengthen the Kirk's finances, had already been adopted by the assembly.

Mr Beaumont said: "Spending in 1990 had been budgeted on the basis that congregation income would increase by 6 per cent."

In 1991, however, the church planned to challenge members by increasing budgeted spending by 8 per cent. "This represents a realistic target which we are confident the church is capable of achieving," Mr Beaumont said.

In presenting the board's report, he urged church financial boards to encourage members to increase funds by committing themselves to giving a definite proportion of their income to the Kirk and by way of deed of covenant. He also called for financial boards to review giving on an annual basis. Mr

Beaumont called for the boards to make use of material available through the "Sharing Church" programme, which explains to members how their money is used.

A Kirk elder, Mr James Gibson, of Glasgow, asked if the board had any recommendation about the proportion of income that members should give to the church. Mr Beaumont said that in the past it had been suggested that a figure of 5 per cent was appropriate.

Mr Beaumont, presenting his last report as convenor of the board of stewardship and finance, was commended for his work by the Moderator, the Right Rev Professor Robert Davidson, on behalf of the assembly.

Labour spells out children's charter

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

THE Labour Party yesterday unveiled plans for a children's charter designed to give young people a voice on such issues as poverty, abuse and neglect.

A policy document launched by Miss Joan Lester, the spokesman on children, called for a realistic level of child benefit, a network of young people's hostels, and a national system of nursery provision.

The latter proposal is in line with the party's campaigning document to be published on Thursday, which speaks of giving "every three and four-year-old whose parents want it the chance of a nursery education by integrating nursery education with every other form of child care".

Miss Lester said the paper released yesterday, *Giving Children a Voice*, the first step in the charter, was "a statement about the rights and needs of children". It identified the main areas of concern as: missing and abused children, those forced to work illegally or to care for a dependent adult, and homeless and sick children. The document also suggested a childwatch scheme similar to neighbourhood watch, a computerized system to collect basic information on missing children, and help for children with Aids.

"It is the beginning of a process that will identify areas of concern about child victims of poverty, abuse and neglect," Miss Lester said, although she was unable to estimate the cost of the proposals.

Labour is also planning a new programme of environmental and economic help for the world's poorer countries, more than doubling spending on overseas aid (the Press Association reports).

Mrs Ann Clwyd, shadow Minister for Overseas Development, said all aid would be "environmentally sound". The party would boost investment in the development of renewable energy sources and try to reduce the burdens of debt. The policy goes before the party's national executive committee this week.

Grant school to take on policy role after opt-out

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

A COMPREHENSIVE school that will opt out of local authority control this September is to be given an unprecedented opportunity to influence educational policy in the borough from which it has broken away.

Under a scheme awaiting approval from Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, Bishopshalt School in Hillingdon, west London, will be invited to nominate a representative to the borough's education committee. Hillingdon, which was recaptured by the Conservatives in the local elections earlier this month, is the first council to seek to involve a grant-maintained school in the running of its education service.

Yesterday, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, welcomed the development. "I am delighted that Hillingdon has taken this decision," he said. "Hillingdon recognizes that grant-maintained schools are here to stay and that they are proving popular with parents."

The plan, which marks a watershed in municipal thinking on opting out, would allow a representative of Bishopshalt to sit as a non-voting member of a new, streamlined education committee. Under the 1989 Local Government and Housing Act any change in the constitution of a local authority education committee requires ministerial approval.

Dr David Payne, the chairman of Hillingdon education committee, said: "I hope that we are trail-blazing and that other Conservative authorities will follow our lead. Far from wanting to fight opting out we welcome the varying types of education that will be available to our pupils in the borough. It is up to the parents to choose from the menu of choice we can now offer."

He said he expected either the headmaster of Bishopshalt or the chairman of governors

to sit as the school's representative on the education committee from September, if the change was approved.

Mr Adrian Pritchard, director of the Grant-Maintained Schools' Trust, which advises opted-out schools, said: "I think it is a terrific, exciting idea. I have always thought that, given time, local authorities would come to terms with grant-maintained schools. We have begun to see evidence in all parts of the country that the initial hostility is lessening. This is extremely positive and I hope others will follow suit."

Dr Payne also disclosed plans to take on Wandsworth, another borough where the Conservatives did well in the local elections, in the race to play host to a new type of City Technology College (CTC).

After last year's decision by the Treasury to cut off funds to the CTC programme once the first 20 pilot schemes were complete, the CTC Trust announced that it wanted to go into partnership with education authorities to set up voluntary-aided CTCs.

Wandsworth has already announced plans for a voluntary-aided CTC at Battersea, but Dr Payne said that Hillingdon hoped to be first with a conversion of Townmead School, a comprehensive near Heathrow airport.

Conservative councillors are already seeking support for the scheme from local businesses. Dr Payne said the council would seek to raise £500,000 from industry to launch the project. The Department of Education and Science had promised to match donations up to £500,000 and the council was considering donating a further £250,000 to help with start-up costs.

The school, which has been under threat of closure because of falling pupil numbers, would double in size to 1,000 pupils and would also serve as a "resource centre" for training teachers in technology subjects.



Mr Jim Erwin, a British Gypsum manager, musing yesterday over folly built in Sussex by "Mad John" Fuller (left) in the 1820s to win a bet that he could see a church spire from his home.

Playground of an eccentric for sale

THE Robertsbridge Estate in East Sussex is a deceptive property, dotted with 19th-century follies while beneath the ground are gypsum workings that have been mined for 120 years (Christopher Warman writes).

The gypsum mine is all underground and has not disturbed the deeply wooded Sussex countryside, which is a feature of the area. As mining has moved to the outer fringes of the estate, its owner, British Gypsum, is selling the 3,000 acres of tenant farms and forestry above.

Originally, the site formed part of the Brightling Estate owned by John Fuller, elected MP for East Sussex in 1807. His short political career ended in 1810 when he was ejected from the Commons and threatened with imprisonment after insulting several peers, including the Speaker.

He was known as "Mad Jack" Fuller, both for his eccentric style and his habit of building follies on hills around Brightling. One of them, Brightling Tower, is included

in the sale and was probably built in the 1820s. It is believed it was built after he had bought Bodiam Castle near by so that he could watch the progress of repair works from the top of the 35ft tower. The British Gypsum Company, with the Sussex Historic Gardens Restoration Society, has helped to renovate it, erecting an iron staircase inside to replace the original wooden one destroyed by fire.

Today the tower, which was damaged by the hurricane of October 1987, gives fine views over Darwell Reservoir.

Other follies built by Fuller include a rotunda temple, a 25ft pyramid in the local chuchyard as his grave, and the "sugar loaf". The 35ft high conical-shaped structure was reputedly built by Fuller in 24 hours to resemble church steeple and win a bet that he could see a church spire from his estate.

British Gypsum is asking about £2.5 million for the estate, which includes two vacant houses and the opportunity for shooting and stalking.

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Parkinson puts Channel link subsidy in doubt

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

PROPOSALS to build the Channel tunnel rail link were thrown into confusion yesterday after Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Transport, appeared to rule out the prospect of any government subsidy.

Addressing a conference organized by the Financial Times, on the theme of European transport in the 1990s, Mr Parkinson said: "We believe that rail must win its place in the market, and not have it bought for it by the taxpayer."

His statement puts a question mark over proposals by the European Rail Link consortium, made up of British Rail, Trafalgar House and BICC, to complete the new link by 1998, when existing rail capacity will be unable to cope with demand. Under those proposals it is thought British Rail will put up about £1 billion towards the cost of the project, while its two private-sector partners will provide about £1.2 billion, leaving the Government to fund the remaining £400 million to make the scheme commercially viable.

In exchange for the subsidy, Network South-East would be given 50 per cent of the new line, thereby providing the additional capacity needed to relieve chronic overcrowding on Kent commuter services.

Although European Rail Link declined to comment on Mr Parkinson's statement, it is widely thought a decision not to back the new line with public funds would force the consortium to produce a cheaper route by saving on environmental protection measures, or postpone construction indefinitely.

Mr Parkinson said that while the Government was planning to spend more than £1 billion on upgrading the existing line, construction of the 68-mile high-speed link between Folkestone and King's Cross "was never part of the original plan. It was an addition." He was studying the proposals submitted last month by European Rail Link, and an announcement was expected shortly.

He added that Parliament had put a clause in the Channel tunnel Bill that said there should be no subsidy for the rail link, as that would discriminate against existing services that were not subsidized.

Some transport analysts interpreted Mr Parkinson's statement as an attempt "to hedge his bets" in case the Treasury overruled the subsidy proposal, while others saw it as a warning that the Government was preparing to "stall" over the final decision. Mr Parkinson, however, dismissed claims that Britain was falling behind its European partners in the provision of transport infrastructure. He said the Government was

Trout die as stream is poisoned

By Lin Jenkins

POLLUTION has devastated an important spawning ground for trout in the river Camel, in Cornwall, killing thousands of fish and many more recently hatched fry.

Residents in Lanivet and Nanstallon, near Bodmin, have been warned not to eat any fish from the river or paddle in the Lanivet stream, after a five-gallon drum of toxic fungicide was dumped in the river at the weekend.

National Rivers Authority wardens have picked up more than 600 fish, but local fishermen say twice that number have died, and many more are strewn along a two-mile section of the stream. Large numbers of fry measuring up to 1½ in long, have died.

Farmers are being advised to keep their livestock away and not to take water from the stream following a serious pollution incident. In short this has killed the stream," a spokesman for the National Rivers Authority, which has called in the police.

Tests are being carried out along the Lanivet stream and the Camel to monitor the levels of Pentachlorophenol (PCP). The spokesman said although some dead fish may have been washed into the main river, the levels of PCP were below critical levels for fish in the Camel. However, conservationists are concerned at the effect on animals such as kingfishers and otters, which may have eaten poisoned trout. Mr Tyson Jackson, chairman of the Camel Fisheries Association, said it would take up to four years for the stream to recover.

Bootle by-election

Kinnock sets style on campaign trail

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent, Bootle

MR NEIL Kinnock had a stylish start to his week yesterday as he delivered a brief homily on the sartorial standards of the working class and saw the latest trends in children's and women's wear.

The Labour leader, looking the epitome of a successful businessman in his dark navy, wide-shouldered, double-breasted suit (with turn-ups) and polished brogues, was in Merseyside to support his party's candidate in the Bootle by-election. Mr Kinnock bristled with indignation when asked whether the new executive look of the Labour Party — smart suits and red roses — would be off-putting to the working-class voters of Bootle.

Around him were other examples of Labour's "new look". The candidate, Mr Mike Carr, looked a little uncomfortable in a blue pinstripe suit. Dr Marjorie Mowlam, the party's City spokesman, was in a mustard-coloured suit with matching shoes, and the Walworth Road press officer was wearing a high-fashion white jacket.

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LET IT THROUGH
THE TIMES

Mr Kinnock: Looking for a high turnout

turnout on Thursday. He said: "We are not taking the people of Bootle for granted in any way whatsoever. I just hope that there will be a high turnout because I hope that people, whatever they vote, will be using their democratic right."

The Labour leader promised that his party would not offer the people of Britain or Bootle a false prospectus, saying it was a party looking to the future rather than looking over its shoulders to the past. "We are the party prepared to face up to the realities and to face them and understand them."

A closer look around the Riz Design factory would have shown that one of those realities was that while the company was turning out high-quality goods for one of Britain's top high-street retailers, most of the machines producing them had the words "made in Japan" on their sides.

General election: Allan Roberts (Lab) 34,975; D Papworth (Con) 10,498; P Denham (SDP/All) 6,820; Lab maj: 24,477.

the boards to make available through the "church" programme, how their members have been suggested that in was appropriate.

Mr James Gibson, of the board had any proportion of his last members should give to him said that in been suggested that in was appropriate.

presenting his last paper of the board of finance, was by the Moderator, Professor Robert David Dewar, shadow Secretary of State for Scotland.

1 puts link doubt

Correspondent

ing "a huge investment to make sure the tunnel serviced by rail and road the day it opens". That the £25 million

was last week to build m's first international terminal at Waternewton train maintenance in north London, the cost of 20 Class 92 electric locomotives, and

counter-attack.

He viewed with dismay the way the matter had been handled so far. "We are paying the price for the Government's hands-off attitude, for their insistence that this is simply a matter for the commercial judgement of British Steel."

Conservative MPs who said that government involvement was improper seemed to be reflecting the views of the Department of Trade and Industry all too accurately.

Urgent action was required. His charge against Mr Rifkind was that there had been no evidence of that in the past.

Mr Rifkind had only denied newspaper reports suggesting he had been fully apprised of British Steel's intentions as they developed. "I accept his assurances. But it does lead to the conclusion that if he did not know, he ought to have known, and if he had asked, he might well have been told."

The long period of inaction had allowed Sir Robert Scobie, chairman of British Steel, to plan the strategy unhindered. Mr Rifkind had been missing from the field of action during that period.

Mr Rifkind had used words

that the mill was not closing because it was loss-making. "They are going because British Steel has made the assumption that the capacity is not needed and that they can cut that capacity because their market will remain depressed. That is an assumption which can and should be challenged."

Every section of Scottish life,

including the Scottish Tory Party, was anxious to contribute to the fight to save the strip mill.

The workforce had led by example and deserved better than the announcement of the closure.

Mr Rifkind moved a government amendment inviting British Steel to explain and defend its decision.

He said that the closure of the strip mill might lead to the closure of Ravenscraig itself with the loss of 3,200 jobs in an area which already had high unemployment. It could signal the end of the steel industry in Scotland.

It was a matter of concern that information was not given to the

ministers. Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Minister for Social Security, said during question time, "The estimate compares with less than £200 million last year."

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on social security, said that the exercise was aimed at cutting public expenditure.

Any maintenance recovered was used to reduce benefit paid to lone parents.

Congregations pay £70m

About £70 million of the money spent last year on maintaining archaeologically and architecturally significant churches was contributed by congregations.

and about £7 million came from state aid towards structural repairs, Mr Michael Alison, representing the Church Commissioners, said at Commons questions.

Sunday trade

The Government had no intention of producing another Sunday trading Bill until it was likely to prove practicable and enforceable, and would command a parliamentary majority.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, told peers during question time.

Electricity fees

The latest estimate of the amount spent on fees to organizations advising on electricity privatization for 1989-90 is £12.4 million.

Mr John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, said in a written reply. In this financial year, £34.5 million was being provided for.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; Prime Minister; Debate on Liberal Democrat motion on the poll tax.

Lords (2.30): Social Security Bill, committee, second day.

gn trail

on the House of Commons

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What is important is that they

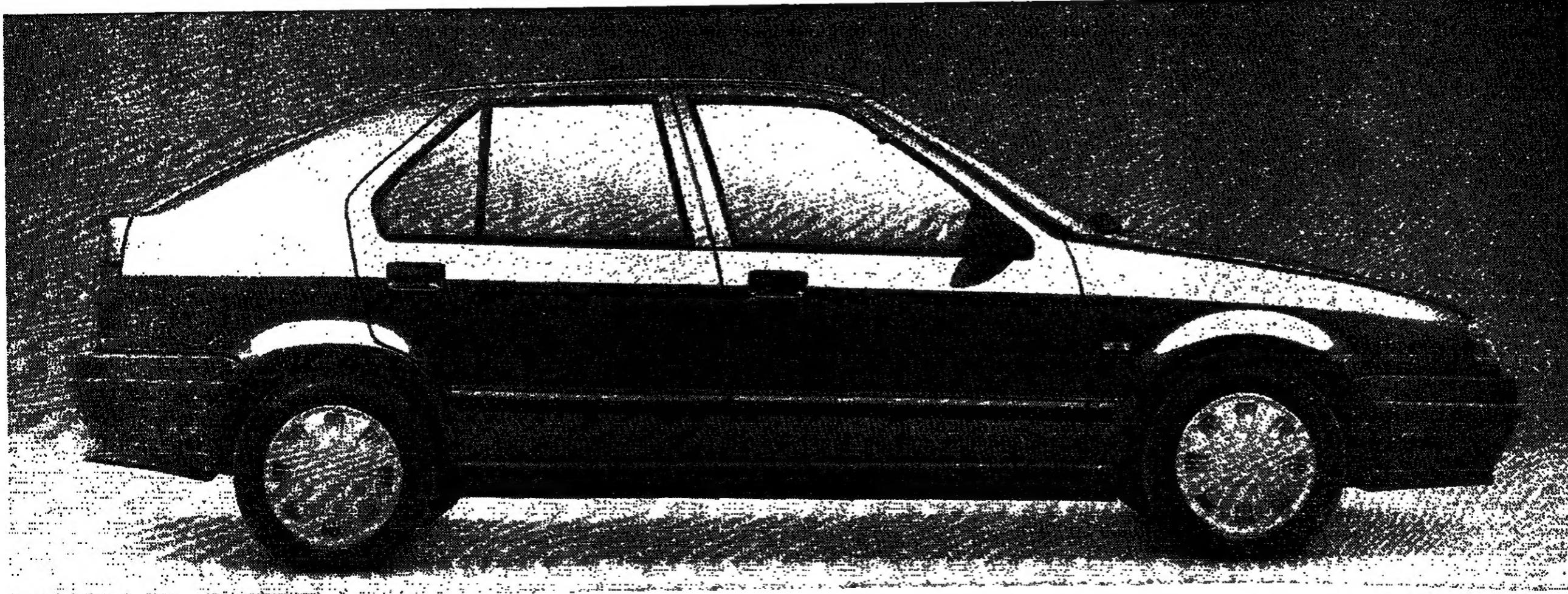
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there to represent them.

That is what is important.

That is what is

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Merchants of Kowloon await their fate in trepidation

From Charles Bremner
Hong Kong

THIS time last year, amid the euphoria of China's fling with democracy, nobody was invoking visions of the People's Liberation Army marching up Nathan Road, into Hong Kong's riotous commercial free-for-all. But, as the first anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre approaches, many are dwelling on the arrival of the first Chinese contingents who will be stationed in Hong Kong after July 1, 1997, the day Britain hands over its last great colony.

"It's impossible to imagine that they will just let us get on with business," says Mr Kenny Ching, who fled China to make his living as one of the thousands of merchants selling electronic gear on the teeming Kowloon thoroughfare. "They will have their cadres crawling all over us. It's terrible to have to go into Communist rule just when everyone else is giving it up."

In varying degree, just about everyone in the territory, from the super-rich Chinese élite to the pro-democracy students, share something of Mr Ching's anxiety now that the illusions of last spring have faded and the epilogue to Britain's empire plays itself out.

The only difference focuses on how to ensure the best deal in the face of what has now become clear: though China clearly aims to stick to its pledge to give capitalism free rein in its special administrative region, it has quashed hopes that it will also tolerate real self-rule or democratic expression.

The Basic Law, the mini-constitution



Mr Lee: "We are going downhill and it's a very steep slope"

promulgated this year, makes it clear that executive power will remain firmly in the hands of Peking and effectively curtails political and press freedoms in the Western sense. The Chinese have also ruled that no foreign passport holder will be allowed to hold any senior post. Few in Hong Kong, including British officials, believe Peking will pay regard to Britain's proposed Bill of Rights, which is designed to preserve basic Western-style liberties at least in its present form.

After a year in which China has done next to nothing to calm fears of its political intentions, a sense of despair and betrayal hangs heavily over the territory of almost six million people,

with Britain almost as much a target as Peking. "It's still in the denial stage," says a former American intelligence officer who now works as a consultant for, among others, the Chinese security police and Asian businesses. "Next, it's going to be aggression. Something's going to trigger it and we're going to have trouble. These people have been royally swindled by Britain, and they are angry."

On the surface, nothing would suggest impending upheaval as the money-making fever roars on, only a little dimmed by last year's "events", as the Chinese euphemism puts it. The city resounds to the noise of construction. The road to the racetrack is still clogged with the high-priced transport that gives Hong Kong the top rank over Monte Carlo and Beverly Hills for Rolls-Royces per square mile. The trappings of benevolent colonial rule are still everywhere, from the processions of bewigged and robed judges to the very British police force and the Anglo voices on television extolling people, 1950s style, to drive with care.

Other signs of continuity are less visible. There is the commitment to a new multi-billion dollar airport and consumer port and, while the great old trading concerns such as Jardine Matheson are trying to diversify out of the colony, Japanese conglomerates are moving in.

Look more closely, however, and everywhere you hear the talk of borrowed time, the comparisons with the commercial frenzy of pre-war Shanghai. There is no doubt that the crisis of

confidence now sweeping the territory. Surveys show lower confidence than at any time since the Tiananmen killing. Capital is being shifted out. Morale in the civil service is reported to be crumbling. Middle-level managers and technical experts are leaving at the rate of 1,000 a month and 80 per cent of the colony's chartered accountants say they plan to be out by 1997.

The biggest symptom is the rush to emigrate or obtain the shelter of a foreign passport — a goal that people are now pursuing with the diligence they normally apply to trade. Pregnant women are flying abroad to give birth on foreign territory. All kinds of "advisers" are charging for fast routes to the ideals of Canadian, Australian or American residence (Britain comes low in the list as a choice of destination).

Even countries such as Panama and Tonga are acquiring allure as havens. Seeing its chance, the Tongan Government last week launched a scheme to enable Hong Kong citizens to purchase consular protection with a down-payment and monthly instalments. In one swindle, several people were lured by advertisements and paid thousands of dollars for a passport from the non-existent Republic of Corterra.

Officials and the more optimistic businessmen tell you that the people are just exercising prudence by seeking an extra passport and that many plan to return once they have prepared a foreign haven. The gloomiest see the colony draining itself of vital mid-level manpower well before the handover date. Dr

Joseph Cheng, Dean of the Open University, who speaks for the liberal professional Chinese community, says he believes "there will be a considerable crisis in two or three years to come and there is nothing Britain or anyone can do about it".

Dr Cheng partially blames the failure of local leaders to abandon the paternalistic habits of colonial rule, typified by the local legislature. This view — that Hong Kong was always too busy getting rich to bother about democracy — is widely shared. The Legislative Council, a cosy club of government officials and business leaders, will see its first handful of directly elected members next year. China will eventually allow no more than half to be directly voted in.

For the definitive bleak view you have to go to Mr Martin Lee, the QC and legislator who launched the Alliance movement this year, the first political party in the colony. "We are going downhill and it's a very steep slope ... The British kowtowed and democracy was thrown out of the window." With its policy of appeasement, Britain was losing out on all sides, he said, earning the disdain of Peking as well as of the Hong Kong people. In one area at least, he speaks for very many. Britain's award of UK passports to 50,000 key people and their families has generated resentment rather than gratitude, as well as angering China.

For many of the influential élite, people such as Dame Lydia Dunn, the senior figure on the Executive Council,

Mr Lee's outspoken views are unrealistic, futile and dangerous. Though generally unhappy over the terms of Britain's 1984 agreement, these people see their best hope in avoiding doing anything to offend Peking.

For the first time, these opposing views have erupted in the heart of the business community, leading to a public clash between two senior figures. Mr Jimmy McGregor, the Chamber of Commerce representative on the Legislative Council, denounced the "extremely undemocratic political model" laid down by Peking. He was immediately rebuked by Mr Helmut Sohmen, the Chamber's chairman, who subscribes to the school of not rocking the boat. Mr Sohmen's views are generally shared by the leaders of the big companies and government officials who see no mileage in antagonizing the future rulers.

Exerting growing influence, Peking has made clear that it expects to be consulted on any decisions affecting the future. The Chinese were so put out by Britain's publication of its draft Bill of Rights that they refuse to discuss it, officials say.

Many in the territory, particularly from the liberal side, are upset that Britain has yielded to China's demand that Hong Kong must not be used as a staging ground for any activities aimed at the "subversion" of the communist state. In the latest piece of high-handedness, the mainland has cracked a snook at Hong Kong sovereignty by arresting police officers involved in an anti-smuggling operation inside the colony.

China to retain US trade status

From Martin Fletcher
Washington

PRESIDENT Bush is expected to announce this week that he will renew China's preferential trading status with the United States, despite Peking's continued abuse of human rights. Administration officials and Western diplomats believe however that his decision will be qualified.

The conditions have yet to be finalized, but may include an explicit declaration that the status will be revoked unless China's human-rights record improves. Even with conditions, such a decision would encounter formidable opposition in Congress. Opponents would undoubtedly seek to reverse it, although it is doubtful that they could muster the two-thirds majority necessary to override a presidential veto.

Those who support renewal have been lobbied hard, both by American companies eager to continue trade with China and representatives of the Hong Kong Government. Last night Sir David Wilson, Hong Kong's Governor, was expected to tell the Asia Society in New York of the dire economic consequences for the colony if China's Most Favoured Nation trading status were revoked.

The colony re-exported \$8.5 billion (£5 billion) worth of Chinese goods to the US last year — about 12 per cent of Hong Kong's total 1989 exports. China itself sold more than \$12 billion worth of goods to the United States during the course of the year at an average tariff rate of 8.8 per cent, according to the US-China Business Council.

● Mystery deepens: In a further twist to the mystery of the disappearance three weeks ago of Mr Xu Jiatian, the former head of the New China News Agency bureau in Hong Kong, a monk from the Taiwan-based Fo-Kuang Shan Temple told reporters in Los Angeles at the weekend that Mr Xu was staying "in a quiet place in southern California" but would not request political asylum (Susan Ellicott writes).

Mr Xu's decision to leave his home in Nanking with his wife and family without seeking official permission embarrassed the Chinese Government, which summoned four of his colleagues to Peking and informed other employees of the news agency in Hong Kong, which is effectively the embassy, that they would be allowed to stay a maximum of three years in the colony.

The intifada spills out of occupied territories

From Richard Owsen, Nazareth

IT WAS Israel's nightmare come true: the Palestinian *intifada* which has tied down Israeli troops in the occupied territories for two and a half years spilled over yesterday into Israel's own Arab towns.

After just a few hours of intense street rioting, Nazareth, the largest Israeli Arab town with a mixed Christian Muslim population, became a burning wasteland, littered with broken glass and stones as thousands of Arab youths fought pitched battles with police and troops.

The streets were blocked by barricades after barricades of burning tyres, overturned rubbish bins and wooden crates. The area was thick with the acrid smoke of tear gas as troops drove demonstrators into side streets and aimed water cannon at them.

The area around the great Roman Catholic Basilica of the Annunciation in the centre of Nazareth suddenly resembled a war zone. I joined a group of youths clustered around the Terra Sancta College adjoining the huge building. They stood in the middle of the road giving victory signs and hurled large stones at the troops and police, who

Greeks give Israel full recognition

Athens — Greece announced yesterday its full recognition of the state of Israel and simultaneously upgraded its diplomatic relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization to the highest degree (Chris Eliou writes). It thus became the last European Community country to give full *de jure* recognition to the Jewish state.

The announcement was made by the Prime Minister, Mr Constantine Miltotakis, at a Cabinet meeting. He said Greece could not be the only country in Europe to stay behind, especially when Eastern European governments were resuming full diplomatic relations with Israel.

Angola hope of democracy

Windhoek — Lieutenant-General Pedro Maria Tonya Pedale, the Angolan Defence Minister, said in the Namibian capital yesterday that his country could move towards a multi-party system if peace could be achieved with the US-backed Unita rebels, a gesture seen as conciliatory (Peter Kenny writes).

He said that "if we achieve peace we can improve our system for a kind of multi-party system", indicating acceptance of a key Unita demand.

Australian plan for alcohol curb

Sydney — Australia, home to some famous makers of beer and led by a Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, who once held a world record for beer drinking, is facing a possible ban on alcohol advertising.

The move, by Senator Janet Powell of the minority Democrat Party, to introduce legislation in the August session of the Australian Parliament, was immediately denounced by a brewery chief. (Reuters)



Flood fun: Children of the Tondo slum district in the Philippines capital, Manila, celebrating the first heavy rains in three months by turning the main street into an instant paddling pool. Manila welcomed the downpour, which came after reservoirs had reached critically low levels

Muslim leader's killing sparks Kashmir violence

From Christopher Thomas, Delhi

TWENTY-SEVEN people died yesterday as Kashmir was plunged into further violence after the assassination of a leading political and religious figure by gunmen who burst into his home in Srinagar, the state capital.

Crowds stormed the hospital where Mirwaiz Maulvi Farooq died yesterday, to take away his body. Security forces opened fire as the corpse was carried through the streets, killing 27 and injuring 300, police and hospital sources said. Witnesses said some bullets hit the body. A curfew was immediately imposed.

Maulvi Farooq, the prayer leader in the state's principal mosque, dominated the political scene in the Kashmir Valley for nearly 30 years, although he never contested an election. He advocated a referendum to determine the future of the state, which in effect means choosing between independence or joining Pakistan. He had recently favoured an independent, reunited Kashmir. From his hospital bed, where he died shortly after admission, he is said to have urged all separatist org-

anizations to unite, and told his followers to continue the fight for self-determination.

The shooting is bound to inflame tensions in the valley, where a crushing security presence had brought relative calm and raised hopes in Delhi that a political initiative might soon be possible. That hope now seems to have been dashed. Maulvi Farooq, aged 45, rose to prominence in 1964 when all Kashmir was in

turmoil after the theft of a holy relic, the Sacred Hair, said to be from the Prophet's head.

He launched the Awami Action Committee, which then advocated a pro-Pakistan strategy. He also headed the Sacred Hair Action Committee and lead several peaceful processions in Srinagar.

The life of the Mirwaiz had been threatened many times by political rivals, including a particularly militant fundamentalist group, Hizbul Mujahideen. Yesterday three men entered his house at Nagin Lake and shot him.

He became the Mirwaiz in May 1962 after his uncle, Maulvi Yusuf Shah, the former Mirwaiz, fled to Pakistan.

He was an arch-rival of Sheikh Abdullah, the former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, who died in 1982.

Maulvi Farooq formed an alliance with the Sheikh's son, Dr Farooq Abdullah, the new Chief Minister, which routed the Congress (I) party in the 1983 state assembly elections.

They parted company when the Chief Minister made an accord with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in 1986.

The Prime Minister, in

turn, appointed him as the

Chief Minister of Jammu and

Kashmir in 1987.

Maulvi Farooq was succeeded by Dr Farooq Abdullah.

Interest in the Mirwaiz

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Securitate colonels keep tight grip on corridors of power

From Richard Bassett, Bistrita, Romania

NO ONE attempting to do business with the new "legitimate" Government in Romania after Sunday's elections will be able to avoid the colonels left behind by the despised Securitate of the deposed and executed Nicolae Ceausescu.

According to a report in the independent *Romania Libera* daily, there are nearly 400 Securitate officers of field rank running every one of the country's foreign commerce organizations. All key positions in the Ministry of Foreign Commerce are similarly occupied by colonels, while several senior officers of the Securitate have emerged as ambassadors to Western Europe and the Middle East, the report claims.

Colonel Pirvutin Constantin has been appointed an ambassador to the European Union. In Bucharest itself, the Foreign Commerce Department is riddled with senior colonels. In charge of agricultural export is the diminutive Colonel Stoicescu, a fine poker player whose table at the Bucharest Casa Armati is always full.

Exports of fruit are, however, in a separate department controlled by Major Cornaciu — whose love of horses is legendary within the narrow equestrian circle which today's cavalry officer in Bucharest must frequent.

Weary Bucharest protest grinds on

From Tim Judah, Bucharest

FOR the 1,000 anti-communist "demonstrators" blocking Bucharest's University Square, yesterday seemed to be business as usual. Knots of people gathered to talk politics, bask in the warm spring sunshine, and to look at the small tent city that has grown up in front of the towering Intercontinental Hotel.

But, despite protestations to the contrary, it was not business as usual. For the first time in its month of existence, the whole bizarre demonstration had simply begun to look shabby. The defiance continues, but with the predicted National Salvation Front landslide, fatigue — if not a little desperation — had begun to set in.

Mrs Oana Farcasanu, a student who has been coming almost daily to University Square, said: "I'm very depressed by the electoral predictions. I'm sure the results have been fixed. I just don't know what to do."

By contrast, Mr Marian Nadeleanu, a working man, said he knew what he was going to do. He said the elections were a "fraud", and that he was going to keep coming "to protest against communism until the end".

Mrs Adriana Istratescu, a typist, is a University Square stalwart. She lives in a tent despite the fact that she has four children (now living with her unwilling and disapproving aunt).

She says that she is "tired", but intends to stay where she is until the Government talks to the protesters. Her 12-year-old daughter Radu says that she is "proud" of her mother, and hopes that she "carries on". As she speaks, she is stroking a blind white rabbit that has been adopted by the tent dwellers.

But is it possible that the Government will simply carry on ignoring the protesters — in this?

Bulgarian opposition refuses to sign pact

THE Bulgarian opposition, which is preparing to fight the former Communist Party in elections next month, unexpectedly refused to sign a pre-election agreement yesterday and complained of campaign malpractices.

A televised signing ceremony at the offices of the state President and former Communist Party leader, Mr Petar Mladenov, erupted into chaos as the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) and more than 30 other opposition groups refused to sign and read out statements of complaint to the cameras.

Mr Zhelev, the UDF president, said that his group agreed in principle with the document, which sets out provisions against intimidation before the elections on June 10 and 17. But he said the UDF was worried by some pre-electoral malpractices and felt the Communists — now renamed the Socialist Party — had staged the televised ceremony as a propaganda stunt.

"We are upset by conditions in the country," Mr Zhelev said.

Thirty-three political groups signed the document and a further 12 signed with reservations. Thirty-five organizations, including the UDF and the former official trade union federation, refused to sign.

Gorbachov drafts personal pension plan

From Mary Dejewsky
Moscow

WHEN the pressures of office become too great, President Gorbachov can reflect that he is the only leader in Soviet history who can look forward to a comfortable retirement when his 10-year presidency comes to an end. Unlike all but one of his predecessors, who died in office, it emerged yesterday that the Soviet leader has made provisions for his pension.

True, the plan cannot hope to compete with the likes of Mr Ronald Reagan, who Mr Gorbachov will visit at his retirement mansion in California next month, but by Soviet standards the package promises a life of continued privilege.

In details published yesterday, it emerged that the state will pay Mr Gorbachov 1,500 roubles (£1,500) a month — more than 20 times the basic Soviet retirement pension — and will

provide a state retirement home with staff, security and transport.

Although such provision has been the rule for retired ministers and Central Committee members before, the only Soviet leader to have benefited from such provision was Khrushchev, who was ousted by Brezhnev in 1964, and dispatched to the country in obscurity. All other Soviet leaders have died in office.

Having taken the new post of Executive President in March, Mr Gorbachov has — under the present constitution — a maximum of 10 years in office. He would then be 66 — one year over the recently set retirement age for party and state figures standing for office. Over the past year he has threatened to resign at two closed party meetings, but each threat was couched in rhetorical and hypothetical terms along the lines of "If the party will not support these policies, I will have no alternative ... but to

resign". President Gorbachov made sure yesterday that he would be well provided for in and out of office. Under the revised version of a resolution on the presidency, given its second and final reading in the Supreme Soviet yesterday, the Soviet President will have a salary of 4,000 roubles a month — more than 16 times the average Soviet wage — but he will be subject to tax, leaving him with a net income of 2,300 roubles a month.

The first draft of the legislation had proposed a salary of 2,500 roubles tax-free. But the tax-free status had displeased many parliamentary deputies and the party's youth newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, ran a front page editorial saying that it was better the Soviet President had a salary that was internationally competitive and paid tax than had a lower salary that was tax-free. The President will also be entitled to a Moscow flat, tied to the job, a country house near Moscow



Pointed accusation: Mr Harrison Schmitt, a US observer at the Romanian elections, displaying a ballot paper he claims was marked in favour of the National Salvation Front before it was handed to a voter

Russian strike fails to take hold in Estonia

From Anatol Lieven, Tallinn, Estonia

A STRIKE by Russian-speaking workers against Estonian independence seems, so far, to be considerably smaller than a similar one last year — and Estonian officials are saying that "a corner may have been turned" in relations between the nationalities.

Only an estimated 30,000 workers in 18 enterprises joined the strike, which is a relatively small proportion of the 39 per cent of the non-Estonian population which constitutes a majority of the industrial workforce.

The strike will in most cases last only two days. But Mr Yuri Sokolov, a strike committee member, said that some enterprises might continue striking up to the summit between Presidents Gorbachov and Bush at the end of this month, "because we want the world to know how we feel".

Unlike last summer's strike, among the enterprises on strike are parts of the commercial port, which is only handling exports; the railway freight service; and local Aeroflot flights. Passenger trains and international flights are unaffected. Shipyards, a rail-

way repair plant, and electronics factories are also involved. The strikes took place both in Tallinn and in Russian-dominated factories elsewhere, including the Russian majority areas of north-eastern Estonia.

Almost all the workers on strike are in "all-union" factories, owned and controlled by Moscow, but the strikes are generally being encouraged and organized by the management, which are linked to the official trade unions.

This is one reason for the unenthusiastic response of the workers. They are already worried at the prospect of unemployment, and irritated enough at their standard of living and in this linkage of forces, there was no possibility of alleviating workers' economic discontent given the political nature of the exercise.

At the RET electronics factory, the workers were all opposed to independence, but most were unenthusiastic about the strike. Of the 3,500 workers at the plant, only some 800 turned up to a meeting at which managers and party officials argued for the strike. Of these, only 62 per cent voted in favour.

The ministers will begin to assess how far Nato should adapt its strategy for conventional and nuclear forces

deployed in Europe. One of the other principal issues confronting them will be the new problems that have arisen at the Conventional Forces in Europe summit in Vienna.

• STOCKHOLM: So far the end of the Cold War has brought about only a disappointing dividend, with world spending on armaments falling by just 2 per cent last year to \$950 billion (£562 billion), the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute said yesterday (Christopher Mosley writes).

Signal by Nato of defence cutbacks

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

NATO defence ministers are expected today to end the requirement for alliance members to increase defence spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms. The decision, expected at the Nato Defence Planning Committee in Brussels, will be seen as the clearest sign that the alliance intends to start cutting military spending because of the reduced threat.

Although many member countries, including Britain, have failed to keep to the 3 per cent figure for some time, the official guideline set by the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, has remained as official Nato policy. Today the defence ministers are expected to acknowledge realities and cancel the 3 per cent guideline.

The two-day Defence Planning Committee meeting will also start to prepare the groundwork for a long-term strategy review, which is to be formally set in motion at the London summit in July.

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A Lithuanian housewife in Vilnius buying pork, in plentiful supply despite Moscow's economic boycott

'Centrist' institute picks right-winger as director

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

THE Royal Institute of International Affairs — attacked by Tory right-wingers for "hard-line" centrist views — has appointed as its next director an academic noted for his robust views on defence.

Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, will succeed Admiral Sir James Eberle from next January. He established a firm reputation as man of the right during nine years as professor of war studies at King's College, London.

Controversial new legislation on protecting the "honour and dignity" of the President — that would make it a criminal offence to insult the President in public — was given its first reading 10 days ago but sent back for drafting because so many deputies objected to the vagueness of the law's wording. The draft law was introduced as soon as the Supreme Soviet reconvened after the May holiday period, during which Mr Gorbachov had been confronted by a hostile crowd of demonstrators in Red Square calling for his retirement.

A colleague said yesterday: "He is a man of the right rather than the centre-right. He does not correspond with the soft image some have attributed to Chatham House (the institute's headquarters). He is thought by most defence professionals to be a hard

rather than a soft man." Professor Martin's Reith lectures argued against unilateral disarmament. The world, he said in essence, must learn to live with the Bomb. In another lecture he pointed to the dangers which would arise if Third World countries obtained nuclear weapons.

An anonymous article in *The Sunday Telegraph* eight

days ago accused Chatham House of being "the voice of the Extreme Moderates". It said such people enjoyed attending international conferences and reading discussion papers but failed "to understand the real world".

The staff, celebrating the institute's 70th anniversary, were angered but also entertained and secretly flattered by the headline "Hard-line Moderate".

Mr George Robertson, a Labour foreign policy spokesman who has lectured at Chatham House, said in a letter to the same newspaper on Sunday: "Perhaps one of the least-welcome 70th birthday presents the institute could have expected would have been an endorsement from Peregrine Worsthorne. So to be dubbed 'hard-line moderate' is no dishonour."

Lord Callaghan, co-president of Chatham House, said yesterday it was vital for the international standing of Britain to have such a forum, and appealed for £4 million to expand its work.

Baker silent on Soviet trade treaty

From Martin Fletcher
Washington

MR JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, has conspicuously failed to list a bilateral trade treaty among the accords he expects Presidents Bush and Gorbachov to sign at their Washington summit beginning in eight days.

The omission underscores earlier hints from aides that the US is making the signing of such a treaty conditional on the Soviet Union ending its economic squeeze on Lithuania and opening genuine negotiations with Baltic independence movements.

According to one report here yesterday, Mr Baker made the link explicitly during his Moscow talks last week with Mr Gorbachov and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The trade treaty is virtually complete, but Mr Baker made no mention of it in his weekend statement after the talks, and spoke only of several lesser commercial agreements to be signed at the summit. These included a grains agreement and a maritime transportation agreement.

With the Soviet economy in crisis, Mr Gorbachov probably needs the trade treaty even more than he needs arms control agreements. It is a necessary precursor to the US granting the Soviet Union Most Favoured Nation trading status.

US officials have meanwhile returned from the Moscow talks with the view that Mr Gorbachov is still firmly in control but is paying greater deference to the Soviet military than he has in the past. They remarked on the unprecedented presence at the Kremlin negotiations of Colonel-General Bronislav Omelianov, First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces and probably the second most powerful general in the Soviet military.

At one point Mr Baker believed he had reached firm agreement with Mr Gorbachov on which air-launched cruise missiles would be covered by the strategic arms limitation treaty, only for the Soviet military to refuse to accept it. Mr Baker responded by writing directly to Mr Shevardnadze, warning that all deals were off unless this agreement was reinstated. It promptly was.

One official told *The New York Times* that Mr Gorbachov's conduct during the talks suggested he "certainly does not want to alienate the military at a time when he is being criticized for failing to improve the domestic quality of life for allowing the union to disintegrate and for allowing an erosion of their overall security position". The officials said Mr Gorbachov openly acknowledged the range of pressing domestic problems he faced, appeared less than sure he could ultimately surmount them all, and at one point appealed to Mr Baker not to tax him with minor issues.

• BRUSSELS: Soviet leaders told Mr Baker in Moscow that a united Germany could not join Nato and that their hands were tied over the Lithuanian crisis, alliance sources said here yesterday after senior American officials briefed Moscow ambassadors about the Secretary of State's trip.

The tough Moscow line on the two issues contrasted strongly with the announced results of Mr Baker's Moscow talks, which laid the ground for agreements to cut strategic nuclear missiles and chemical weapons. (Reuters)



Professor Martin: Noted for robust defence views

PORTABLE PCs. A FEW PLACES WE'D ADVISE YOU NOT TO TAKE ONE.

Abbas Combe	Airksey	Bathampton	Bolton	Brotherton	Carlisle	Cleish	Creag Aoil	Doddington	Eftord Closes	Foggethorpe	Goosewell	Harewood End
Abberley	Arlington	Battle	Bonawe	Brough	Carron	Clelland	Crediton	Dodleston	Elie	Gorebridge	Harlescott	Hilston
Abberton	Arlington	Beaconsfield	Bonham	Broughall	Carnell	Cleint	Creighton	Dofach	Folla Rule	Gong	Hilston	Hiltingbury
Abbey	Armadale	Bealsmill	Bonnybridge	Broughton	Carforth	Clevedon	Cressbrook	Dollar	Elkesley	Fonthill Gifford	Hareston	Hinckley
Aber	Armitage	Bear Hill	Boote	Brownhill	Carnkie	Clevode	Cressing	Doncaster	Ellastone	Gorsebank	Harpenden	Hindley
Aberamen	Arniston	Beardwood	Borden	Brownlow	Carnforth	Cleves Hills	Crewe	Domnington	Ellen's Green	Gosbeck	Harpford	Hindmoreson
Aberavon	Arnold	Bearrsden	Borehamwood	Broxbourne	Carol Green	Cliffe	Criccieth	Dorchester	Ellerher	Gosford	Harpford	Hindon
Abercorn	Arras	Beaufort	Boreston	Broxted	Carbridge	Clifton	Cricklade	Dorking	Ellingham	Fordingbridge	Harrison	Hinton
Abercrom	Arundel	Beaufeu	Borgie	Bromby	Carrington	Cliftonville	Cricklade	Dormington	Elm	Fordoun	Gosport	Hinton Waldrif
Abercwmbwl	Ascot	Becches	Borgue	Brundish	Caron	Clipiau	Crieff	Dornston	Elmore Back	Fordwich	Goudhurst	Harrow
Aberdeen	Ash	Beckbury	Borum	Bruntingthorpe	Cilgerran	Climplasham	Dormidge	Elmton	Forge Side	Gossington	Gossops Green	Harrowgate
Aberdour	Ashbourne	Beckenham	Borrowby	Brunton	Carshalton	Clyby	Cripplesyle	Downe	Elphinstone	Forrest lodge	Gosport	Harrowden
Aberdovey	Ashburton	Beckfoot	Borrowdale	Brympton	Carter's Clay	Clock Face	Crockernwell	Dounie	Elsecar	Fort Augustus	Grafton	Hartfield
Aberford	Ashburton	Beck Hole	Boscoppa	Bryn	Carterton	Clopton Corner	Croft	Dovaston	Eisenham	Fort Matilda	Graig-fachan	Hartland
Abergale	Ashbury	Beckley	Boshain	Brynamman	Carway	Clothall	Croft-on-Tees	Dover	Eirickite	Fortuneswell	Grainsby	Hartley
Abergwesyn	Ashcombe	Bedale	Boston	Brynegwyn	Cas-gwent	Clova	Croggan	Dowally	Eiston	Forward Green	Grainthorpe Fen	Hartlip
Abernant	Ashdon	Bedford	Botolphs	Brymeg	Castell-neid	Chaddrey	Crokr	Dowlands	Elistree	Fossebridge	Grange	Harton
Aberystwyth	Asheldham	Bedhampton	Bottacks	Buckerell	Castle Bromwich	Clutton	Cromer	Dowmend	Eltwater	Four Crosses	Grangemill	Hartshead
Abingdon	Ashendon	Bedlam	Bough Beech	Buckfastleigh	Castle Bytham	Clyne	Cromford	Downham Market	Elton	Four Lane Ends	Grantham	Hartwood
Ablington	Ashfield	Bedward	Bourne	Buckhurst Hill	Castle Cary	Clyneish	Crook	Downham Market	Evington	Four Roads	Grantchester	Hawich
Alison	Ashford	Beeston	Bournemouth	Buckingham	Castle Combe	Coal Aston	Crookedholm	Downham Market	Ely	Fovant	Granham	Heselor
Accott	Ashfordby	Beetham	Buckland	Castle Eden	Coalhill	Cropredy	Draughtgate	Drablegate	Embleton	Foveran	Grasmere	Hodnet
Achintee	Ashill	Benton	Buckles Hard	Castlaford	Coleway	Cropwell Butler	Drapewell	Drakelow	Embo Street	Fowey	Grasscroft	Hogstock
Achmore	Ashington	Began	Beveridge	Bucklow Hill	Castle Heaton	Coate	Crossapot	Draughton	Empshott	Foxearth	Grassington	Holbury
Achurch	Ashington	Beggar Hill	Bovey Tracey	Buck's Cross	Castle Cary	Coates	Cross Foxes	Draycott	Endmoor	Foxton	Gravehill	Holdingham
Acklam	Ashley	Beighton Hill	Bovingar	Buckworth	Castle Combe	Coberley	Crossgill	Drewsteignton	Enfield	Foxwist Green	Gravesend	Holloway
Ackton	Ash Magna	Belford	Bow	Buckworth	Castleton	Cobham	Cross Green	Druifield	Englefield	Fradley	Grays	Hollow Court
Acomb	Ashmill	Belle Vue	Bowlum	Bude	Castletown	Cobridge	Cross Hill	Driglington	Enochduhu	Framlingham	Grayson Green	Hollowell
Acres	Ashover	Bellingham	Bowden	Buglawton	Catbrook	Coldbridge	Cross Side	Drum	Eoribus	Frankton	Great Bentley	Holyhurst
Acton	Ashurst	Bellsquarry	Bowntower	Bulkington	Caterham	Cockburnspath	Crook	Dry Sandford	Eryholme	Frating Green	Great Busby	Hollywood
Addlestone	Aspden	Bennall Green	Boys Hill	Buntingford	Catherope	Coldeast	Crowhurst	Ducklington	Esher	Frinton-on-Sea	Great Cheverell	Holmfield
Adeney	Asselby	Benson	Bozeat	Burbage	Coldharbour	Coldharbour	Crows-an-va	Dudley	Eshott	Fritford	Great Gransden	Holmpton
Adlestrop	Asterley	Bentley	Brabiling Green	Burdrop	Coxton	Coldharbour	Crossways	Duffield	Fritton	Freiston Shore	Great Coxwell	Holsworth
Admington	Asterton	Benwick	Brackenhwaite	Burford	Cellan	Cold Hatton	Croall	Dunfield	Fritton	Great Cubley	Heughton	Holme Chapel
Adstone	Asthall	Bempston	Bowsden	Bunkers Hill	Caterick Bridge	Coggeshall	Crowdecote	Drybeck	Frettenham	Great Dunmow	Holmeswood	Holme Marsh
Aikton	Astley	Berkhampsted	Bow Street	Bunny	Caulcott	Colchester	Crowdhill	Drybridge	Great Eversden	Havant	Holmfrith	Holmfrith
Ailton	Astrop	Bermice	Bracon	Burham	Cawdor	Coldeast	Crowndale	Dry Sandford	Hawerigg	Hawcross	Holmpton	Holmpton
Aisby	Atcham	Berniew	Bradbourne	Burnmarsh	Chaceley	Coldeast	Crowhurst	Ducklington	Hawcross	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alskew	Atheiney	Berry Hill	Bradbury	Burnside	Chadwell	Coldeast	Crowhurst	Dudley	Eshott	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Akeley	Atherstone	Betheraden	Bradford	Burnell	Chagford	Colne Green	Crofton	Duffield	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Albert Town	Atlow	Bevendean	Brading	Burnham	Chainbridge	Coldhill	Crofton	Dunfield	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Albrighton	Aterby	Beverley	Bradnop	Burnham-on-Sea	Challacombe	Colgate	Cuddington	Dunfield	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alburgh	Attleborough	Bewcastle	Bradpole	Burnhope	Chandler's Ford	Collacott	Cudiptown	Dunlastair	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alcester	Atworth	Bexhill	Bradwall	Burnley	Chapel End	Collyweston	Culbume	Dunbeath	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alcombe	Aubarrow	Bexley	Brachead	Burnside	Chapel Hill	Cormorth	Culmorth	Duncanson	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Albury	Aubourn	Beyton	Braehouland	Burnt Oak	Chapel Row	Coply	Cumbridge Mill	Dunfermline	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldeburgh	Auchendinny	Bibury	Brafferton	Burnton	Chapel Row	Colbourn	Cunning Park	Dunkerton	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldenford	Auchmithie	Bicester	Bregbury End	Burpham	Chapelton	Colscott	Cuperham	Dunholme	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alderminster	Auchtarder	Bicker	Bragdenbeg	Burradon	Chard	Colthouse	Dunholme	Exbourne	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alder Moor	Auckley	Bickerton	Braintree	Burridge	Charing	Coln Green	Dunholme	Easter	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldershot	Aulters	Bickley	Bramham	Burrington	Charng Heath	Colwell	Dunholme	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alderton	Aultvullin	Bickley	Bramley	Burrow Bridge	Chatsfield	Colyton	Dunholme	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldgate	Aunsby	Biddisham	Brampton	Burslem	Chelmsford	Combe Florey	Duxford	Dunsmore	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldringham	Austin Fen	Bidford	Bramshall	Burstwick	Charlesworth	Combe Martin	Duxford	Dunsmore	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Aldwark	Austwick	Bidlake	Bramcaster	Burton	Charlton	Combrook	Duxford	Dunstable	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alexandria	Avoch	Bierley	Brand End	Burwash	Charmouth	Common End	Duxford	Dunstable	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alford	Avon	Bigbury-on-Sea	Brandon	Burwash	Charterhouse	Compton	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alhampton	Avonmouth	Biggin	Bransby	Bury	Chert Sutton	Conaglen	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alkerton	Axbridge	Bigton	Bransgore	Bury End	Chervill	Condover	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alkham	Axford	Bilbrough	Branston	Busby	Chetwold	Congerstone	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alkington	Axminster	Billingford	Bratton	Butcot	Chethill	Congleton	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Allanton	Aydon	Billinghurst	Brawdy	Bushay	Cheshire	Conical	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
All Cannings	Aylesbury	Billington	Brayton	Bushley	Cheshunt	Coniston	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Allercombe	Aylescott	Bilborrow	Bremore	Bushley Green	Cheshunt	Daglingworth	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alestree	Aynho	Bilston	Bredicot	Burcombe	Chesilstone	Daglingworth	Duxford	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alls	Aysgarth	Binegar	Brendon	Butterleigh	Chelmsford	Conisyth	Daglingworth	Duxford	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Allowenshay	Ayton	Bingley	Brentwood	Buttermire	Chelmsfield	Consett	Dalross	Duxford	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Allsigh	Backbarrow	Birchall	Breton Green	Butterton	Cheltenham	Coryn Green	Dale Head	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alt	Bacton	Birdingbury	Bretford	Buttington	Chelwood	Cotswold	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Altarni	Bagby	Birkby	Bretford	Buxton	Chelwood	Colgate	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Allweston	Bagshot	Birkhead	Bretton	Buxton	Cheriton	Colgate	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Almaley	Balleyhead	Birkhill	Brewer Street	Bylest	Cherry Burton	Coniston	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Almholme	Bainshole	Birling	Bridelkirk	Blythe	Cheshunt	Coniston	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Almington	Baker Street	Birmingham	Bridford	Blythom	Cheshunt	Coniston	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater
Alne	Bakewell	Birswith	Bridge	Blythom	Cheshunt	Coniston	Daliburgh	Dunstan	Fritton	Haweswater	Haweswater	Haweswater

Inverurie	Lanbridge	Lodders	Mellisbythedin	Newhaven	Paul	Rathby	Sandplace	Southampton	Tansapple	Uplowman	Wellington	Whitehough	Woodhouse
Ipswich	Langton	Logierait	Mellington	New Haw	Peythorne	Ramebottom	Sandsend	Southbourne	Tasburgh	Upperhough	Wells Hook	Whit oak Green	Woodhouses
Ireton Wood	Langwith	Long Ashton	Melingaun	New Houses	Passmore	Ranage	Sandwich	South Cadbury	Tatting End	Upperton	Welton le Marsh	Whiterow	Woodland
Ironville	Lapworth	Longbridge	Melling Mount	New Inn	Peaton	Ranegarthy	Sandy	South Charlton	Taunton	Upper Wroxall	Welwyn	Whiteslinton	Woodlands
Isabella Pt	Larkfield	Long Common	Meller Brook	Newland	Peebles	Rangeworthy	Sandgate	Southerton	Tavistock	Uppingham	Wembly	Whitfield	Woodleigh
Istington	Lasham	Longfleete	Melplash	Newlands	Pegg's Green	Rapto Stadon	Sandy Lane	South Dalton	Tegyn	Upton	Wendles Amb	Whiting Bay	Woodmansterne
Ivington	Latchley	Long Drax	Melthorpe	New Leek	Pegwell Bay	Ratto Stadon	Sapey Common	Southend-on-Sea	Teignmouth	Upton Cross	Wendron	Whitney Bay	Woodnook
Ivbridge	Lattiford	Long Eaton	Melton Mowbray	Newmarket	Peltton	Ratten Row	Sarcet	Southenden	Telford	Ure Bank	Wennington	Whitsbury	Woodnsring
Iwade	Laughton	Langford	Melvich	New Mills	Pembroke	Raughorn Head	Sarcote	South Gorley	Templand	Uray Nook	Wenworth	Whitstable	Woodnave
Jackfield	Launceston	Longham	Membury	Newmora	Pencarrow	Ravenglass	Salterthwaite	South Hindley	Temple Cloud	Usseby	Wem	Whirrington	Wood's Green
Jamestown	Launton	Longhurst	Menstrie	Newnham	Pendean	Ravenscar	Saughouse	South Lancing	Temple Sowerby	Uton	Wernington	Whitwick	Woodside
Jaywick	Lavendon	Long Lawford	Merchiston	Newport	Pendigant	Ravenhead	Saunton	South Leverton	Tendering Green	Ubridge	Wenin	Whygate	Wood Stanway
Jedburgh	Lavenstock	Long Marston	Mera Green	Newport Pagnell	Peneges	Ravenstruther	Sawbridgeworth	South Marston	Tenterden	Uzmaston	Wesham	Wick	Woodstock
Jingle Street	Law	Long Melford	Merrybent	Newquay	Pennhill	Raw	Sawley	South Mimms	Teignmouth	Upton Cross	Wickham	Wickham Heath	Woodthorpe
Joppa	Lawton	Longmorn	Metrocombe	New Rent	Penhillier	Rawdige	Saxted Green	South Molton	Telford	Urbank	Wennington	Whitsbury	Woodtown
Jurdy West	Leatton	Longnord	Methice	Newsham	Pensachino	Redbourn	Saxthope	South Oxhey	Temley Lock	Venby	Wenworth	Whitstable	Woodmote
Kaber	Lazzenby	Long Roston	Methven	Newshome	Pennant	Redcar	Saxton	South Perrott	Tewkesbury	Venby	Wem	Whirrington	Woodside
Kearnsley	Leadburn	Long Rock	Methwold	New Shorstone	Pennington	Redditch	Scalcaig	South Petherton	Thame	Vigo Village	Wennington	Whitwick	Woodtuck
Keckwick	Leighton	Longshaw	Mivagasye	New Springs	Pennymore	Redditch	Scale Housse	Southport	Thaxted	Viney Hill	West Burton	Whigbeth	Woodland
Kegworth	Lea End	Long Stratton	Michelchurch	Newtown	Reagill	Redhill	Scampion	South Runton	Theddingtonworth	Vale	West Burton	Whigbury	Woodly
Keighley	Leake Fold Hill	Leamington Spa	Michelclover	Newton Abbott	Reberhill	Redpost	Scarborough	South Stifford	Thenham	Vanege	West Cokar	Whigington	Woolmase
Keibrook	Leamside	Longwick	Middleford	Newton Arlosh	Rehoboth	Redruth	Scarcliffe	South Taunton	Thenford	Venege	West Bridgford	Whitwick	Woolscott
Kellacott	Leatherhead	Looe	Midbea	Newton Grange	Rehoboth	Redwicke	Scarthill	South Walsham	Thenford	Venby	West Bridgford	Whitstable	Woolthorpe
Kelly Bray	Lea Yeat	Loose	Middie Clayton	Newton Tracey	Penryn	Redhill	Seaton	Southwell	Therford	Vicarage	West Croft	Whitford	Woolton
Kelton Hill	Leckhampstead	Loudwater	Middleham	Newtonsham	Pensham	Red Lodge	Scottern	Southwold	Thethwaite	Vigo Village	West Cromford	Whitford	Woolton Green
Kemberton	Leckhampton	Loughborough	Middleham	Newtown Linford	Perkinstown	Red Post	Scotter	South Wingfield	Thoresby	Viney Hill	West Burton	Whigbeth	Woolverstone
Kemp Town	Ledbury	Loughton	Middleton	New Watcham	Pendow	Redruth	Seaway	South Wootton	Thompson	Viney Hill	West Burton	Whigbury	Wooperton
Kendleshire	Lee	Lound	Middleton	New York	Penton Mewsey	Red Street	Scrinewood	Southend	Thornbury	Witney	West Cokar	Whigington	Woolmase
Kenilworth	Lee Brockhurst	Low Ardwell	Middle Wallop	Nine Ashes	Pentre	Redtree	Scrymbey	Southenden	Thorney Hill	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kenmore	Lee Mill Bridge	Low Burnham	Middleyard	Ninfeld	Relate	Reigate	Sparkwell	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kenninghall	Lees	Lower Ashton	Mildenhall	Parcevance	Reigate	Richmond	Scunthorpe	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kensington	Leeswood	Lower Bebridge	Mildenhall	Nisbet	Rewell	Rickford	Seaton	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kentisbury Ford	Leetwood	Lower Bullington	Milton	Nobell	Rewell	Rickford	Seaton Suice	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kernidge	Leftwich	Lower Cam	Milton	Norfolk	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kersbrook	Legate	Lower Darwen	Miltown	Norbury	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kerswell Green	Leicester	Lower Elastone	Milbrough	North Astor	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Keswick	Leigh	Lower Green	Milbourn	North Blyth	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kettering	Leigh-on-Sea	Lower Heyford	Milbourn	North Blayth	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kettlewell	Leighton	Lower Kilton	Mile End	North Cley	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kettton	Leighton Buzzard	Lower Ley	Milesmark	North Cley	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Key Green	Leinthall	Lower Milvalog	Milton	North Cley	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Keysham	Leiston	Lower Place	Milkwell	North Combe	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kidderminster	Levington	Lower Soudley	Milbrough	North Cray	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kielder	Leominster	Lower Tale	Milbrough	North Drayton	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kibblesworth	Leonard Stanley	Lower Tysoe	Milbrough	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kicot	Leslie	Lowestoft	Milton	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kildonan	Letchworth	Lowewater	Milton	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Kilmarnock	Letham	Low Gate	Milton	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
Killin Lodge	Letty Green	Low Mill Street	Milton	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway	Seavoe Green	Southenden	Thornhaugh	Witney	West Drayton	Whitwick	Woolmase
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Kilmarnock	Letty Green	Low Mill Street	Milton	North End	Rewell	Ridgeway							

Gorbachov's hard grind

Woodrow Wyatt

The Soviet Union has enough natural resources to be as rich as the United States. Komsomolskaya Pravda, the Young Communists' official organ, recently observed that before 1917 Russia ranked seventh in the world in consumption per head; it is now 77th. After five years of Mr Gorbachov, the Soviet Union continues its drift to ever lower Third World depths. Last Thursday he plaintively complained of the public's fear of new methods: "Changing people's minds is the most difficult thing. *Perestroika* depends on public opinion, and it's conservative."

The official poverty line is £73 a month. This near destitution level afflicts over 40 million. If the poverty line were raised by 50 per cent, which it should be to make a glimmer of sense, nearly half the population would be under it. From housing to soap, from lavatory paper to food, the cramped squalor, the shortages and the homelessness are stupendous.

Mr Gorbachov's comparative openness (*glasnost*) has made the public starkly aware of its wretched plight. Restructuring of the system (*perestroika*) was intended to alleviate and eliminate it. *Perestroika* is failing, perhaps irredeemably, because the public is in a split mind about it, as is Mr Gorbachov himself. Changing over to something beginning to approach a free-market economy would cause unemployment for up to 20 million during the transition. Unemployment is already rising alarmingly at the first tentative efforts.

So is envy of those who work in the small co-operatives given some freedom two years ago. Their output has risen nearly 140 times and now amounts to 5 per cent of the gross national product. The number involved in them has risen from 70,000 to 4.5 million. But the many millions stuck on a bare subsistence level in the barnacled, fully state operations resent their success and do not expect it for themselves.

As far as Mr Gorbachov, he talks much about Lenin and much about the market economy which he seems to want while putting the brakes on it in alarm at the internal political repercussions. Marxists used to talk of the contradictions of capitalism. Mr Gorbachov's famous book, *Perestroika*, is a mass of contradictions. Absurdly he writes: "my country's progress became possible only thanks to the Revolution... It is the fruit of the new social system..." Later he refers to Lenin's "utilization of methods which did not seem to be intrinsic to socialism itself". He means Lenin's famous New Economic Policy, under which private enterprise on the land, in the factories and in business was allowed to flourish, bringing Soviet output by 1925 to 70 per cent of that before 1914. In the name of socialism,

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

Let none sneer at Mrs Dorothy Frances Gurney. Any literate spry enough to spot the fortune to be made by including sundial rights in her contract deserves our special respect, never mind the fact that so commanding yourself to your readers that millions of them are prepared to commission a truck to carry your poetry home and two strong men to erect same in rocker clearly bespeaks a talent which has fingered the public pulse like very few. Her works will stand, albeit in many cases slightly askew, long after those of tonier scribblers have crumpled to dust on neglected shelves. That is one of the things about granite.

Nevertheless, I beg leave to dispute her declaration that one is nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth. That you have the kiss of the sun for pardon and the song of the birds for mirth, I shall not quarrel with, for poets are a breed apart, and if they are so innocent that a sunbeam can absolve their guilts and a blackbird have them rolling helpless in the shrubbery, it is not for the rest of us to wonder whether they would not be even happier in a rubber room. When, however, Dorothy Frances induces, in her ringing pay-off, the general from the personal, she lets herself open to argument.

For it would have to be a very peculiar God indeed to whose heart nothing than a garden brought one nearer. What one is nearest to in a garden is chaos, frustration, despair, disease, decay, and the wholesale slaughter of as many of God's creatures as one can get a nozzle over. What one is nearest to is God's anger with the first gardener for ignoring what it said on the packet. Clearly, God now deploys the garden in constant reminder of man's first disobedience.

Which is why what Mrs Gurney should have written was that one was nearer God's heart in a garden centre. It may be that the canny old bird figured that the cost of chiseling an extra word on a bird-bath might make punters think twice, it may simply be that, like most poets, she believed that scansion should take priority over mere truth, but whatever

Conor Cruise O'Brien thinks Brooke's attempted Ulster compromise doomed from the start

No escaping the agreement discord

John Cope, the minister responsible for security in Northern Ireland, sang an old refrain at a conference in Airlie, Virginia, last week: "By achieving political progress," he said, "we can marginalize the terrorists on both sides of the community."

I am sure most of those present will have approved of such a constructive, middle-of-the-road approach. I, too, once found that tune seductive, when I heard it for the first time in Willie Whitelaw's Green Paper of 1973, the prelude to the Sunningdale power-sharing agreement. But to hear it again, after 17 years of "political progress", invariably accompanied by unrelenting terrorism, made me want to scream. I could picture Gerry Adams's wolfish grin as he heard that he and his Sinn Fein comrades were again about to be "marginalized" by some ingenuous initiative of a British politician.

The initiative this time is the attempt by Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland Secretary, to bring the Unionists and the SDLP together. And, indeed, he seems on the verge of finding a formula

which will get them to the negotiating table to discuss a replacement for the Anglo-Irish agreement. He will continue his efforts at a further meeting in London today with the Unionist leaders James Molyneaux and Ian Paisley. Suppose he does get both sides to the table. What then?

There is no chance that the Unionists and the SDLP will agree to a replacement of the Anglo-Irish agreement because their ideas of what constitutes a satisfactory replacement are in flat contradiction.

On the SDLP side, John Hume speaks, significantly, of "transcending" the agreement rather than "replacing" it. The SDLP will not let go of the agreement — Mr Hume's brainchild — unless it can get something better, from an Irish nationalist point of view. What it has in mind is the Anglo-Irish agreement plus a devolved powersharing executive.

With devolution, under the Anglo-Irish agreement, the SDLP's minority status in Northern Ireland, and consequently on any Northern Ireland executive, would be offset by the Dublin

government's institutional role in relation to Northern Ireland. That means, for SDLP supporters, a significant degree of recognition of what they have always felt: that they are not a minority by rights, but part of a majority on the whole island. That is why the SDLP will not give up on the Anglo-Irish agreement, though they might agree to add to it.

Despite the stinging rebuff he sustained at Upper Bann, Mr Brooke still seems to think he can sell to the Unionists some kind of package containing the essentials of the Anglo-Irish agreement, including an institutionalized role for Dublin in the affairs of Northern Ireland. For Unionists, this would be Sunningdale mark II — from their point of view worse than mark I, under which an executive with a Unionist majority could at least determine the limits of Dublin's role in Northern Ireland. Under mark II, Unionists participating in devolved government would be accepting Dublin's role, as a *fait accompli* agreed with London, without having any capacity to limit it. There will be no takers for that.

Unionists have not forgotten that all their members who accepted Sunningdale mark I lost their seats at the next election. The Upper Bann result suggests the same would happen again. Mr Brooke's assiduous exertions are getting him nowhere. All

his frantic buzzing about suggests to the IRA that Britain is desperately anxious to find some way of distancing itself from Northern Ireland.

With the inevitable failure of each successive effort to find a middle way — between staying and going — Britain is getting nearer to the only real way of attaining what is clearly its objective: actual withdrawal from Northern Ireland, an outcome foreshadowed by Mr Brooke's Cyprus analogy last November. So, the IRA will say, just a few more turns of the screw, lads, and we're there.

Mr Brooke and his colleagues are actually giving aid and comfort to those they fondly believe they are "marginalizing".

More optimistic interpretations were on offer in Dublin at the weekend. One commentator found that the IRA's "decision to launch a major bombing campaign in Britain" is a "measure of its concern at [Mr Brooke's] success to date and an indirect compliment to the Secretary of State's political skills."

Most encouraging, I'm sure you will agree.

What the doctor ordered: reason, honesty and truth

Ian McIntyre finds lessons for today in the words of Samuel Johnson, whose London home has just been reopened

Dr Johnson's house in Gough Square was re-opened yesterday after a programme of refurbishment, and the capital and the nation are the brighter and richer for it. That may seem an extravagant assertion from a compatriot of Boswell's. Lichfield's greatest son was, after all, more comprehensively rude about Scotland and the Scots even than Sydney Smith, which is saying quite a lot:

"Literature in Scotland", he said on one occasion, "was distributed like bread in a besieged town; to every man a mouthful, and to no man a bellyful."

He is, for all that, a hugely important part of our intellectual furniture, on whichever side of Hadrian's Wall we were born.

London's most distinguished adoptive son remains in many respects the English man of letters who has most to say to us across two centuries. Academics, archbishops, captains of industry and prime ministers should frequent the *Today* programme and try instead a few pages of *Rasselas* or the *Dictionary* with their toast and marmalade. It would be better both for their blood pressure and for their prose style.

Those presently charged with finding a successor to Dr Runcie should certainly tone themselves up in this way. The question of his acceptability in the sight of God was never long absent from Johnson's mind, and he found it an alarmingly open one. He had no time for starry-eyed Rousseau-esque notions such as the natural goodness of man. The doctrine of original sin was one that posed no theological difficulties for him, because man's natural uniuersities was something with which, from his own wild impulses, he was all too familiar.

When in the Hebrides with Boswell, a lady asked him whether man was not naturally good. "No Madam," said Johnson, "no more than a wolf." At which, says Boswell, Lady Macleod started, and said in a low voice, "This is worse than Swift."

In his own day, not everyone

admired him as much as Boswell did. Adam Smith thought he was mad. "I have seen him," he wrote, "bolted up in the midst of a mixed company and without any previous notice, fall upon his knees behind a chair, repeat the Lord's Prayer, and then resume his seat at table." Perhaps the tensions he was aware of within himself partly explain the extraordinary extent to which moral intention is apparent in almost everything he undertook. Even the quotations in his *Dictionary* were not there simply to illuminate. It was his intention, he said, to select such sentences "as might give pleasure or instruction by conveying some elegance of language or some precept of prudence or piety".

Once or twice he carried this a bit far. Poor Dr Samuel Clarke was excluded because Johnson thought him heretical on the doctrine of the Trinity, and Hobbes got very short shrift: "I scorned, Sir, to quote him at all, because I did not like his principles."

Johnson's own principles have not always been well understood.

Perhaps the most deeply rooted of them was his idea of literary honesty. "The first step in greatness is to be honest," he said. The American scholar Walter Jackson Bate said the most distinctive quality offered by Johnson's writing was the immense reassurance and trust that it inspired — people reading him had found themselves "cleansed and steadied in the head".

I am never certain how much he would have found to admire in our age. He did not share the modern passion for what is new. Disposable ideas of the colour supplement variety would have appealed to him as little as disposable men. "Men," he once said, "more often require to be reminded than informed," which remains salutary advice for scribblers even in the age of the screen and the terminal.

Nor can I decide what success he would have if he were setting out to conquer Grub Street today. This is an age which puts a premium on instinct and emotion and mistrusts reason. His cast of



mind was supremely orthodox. He had little time for the peculiar, the singular, the perverse so valued by later generations. He always saw things as they were, and he was always himself, although seeing things as they were extended to a proper estimate of his own abilities and achievements.

When they were discussing the *Dictionary* one day, Boswell was bold enough to say to Johnson, "You did not know what you were undertaking." The reply was perfectly in character: "Yes Sir, I knew very well what I was undertaking — and very well how to do it

— and have done it very well."

It is the sort of knock-out resort that politicians dream of being able to produce with conviction on the hustings or at the dispatch box. If they are to learn from Johnson, however, they must go behind the superb assurance of manner. The good doctor, so often represented as an authoritarian arbiter, was, in fact, far too civilized a man to wish to force his views on others. It is true that he believed in "talking for victory", but that is a different matter. And there were, of course, certain targets on which he would always

solemn roses and serious dolphinines. Torbay Borough Council has lightened the tone with Mad Hatters, Pied Pipers and steam trains *portrayed in displays of succulents*. This year, in its anxiety to keep the poll tax to an acceptable level (at £395 already one of the highest in the Southwest), the Conservative council has axed the display. "We had planned to celebrate the centenary of Agatha Christie, who was born in the town," said Bob Sweet, head of Torbay's landscaping department and a Chelsea gold-medal winner for the past seven years. "The display was to be a murder scene, with Inspector Poirot and a corpse in succulents and herbaceous plants. It would have added only 20p to the cost."

Mrs Thatcher started onlookers at Chelsea with her admission that the red rose is one of her favourite flowers. Red, she explained, was the colour of St George, and she always gave out red roses on St George's Day. "I do not intend to have them hijacked by any political party," she added.

Benn lifts the lid

Tony Benn may no longer be a major player in Labour politics, but as his series of diaries takes us closer and closer to the present day, his ability to embarrass the party leadership grows ever stronger. The third volume, to be published ahead of the Labour conference in September, will for the first time detail the rows which rocked the Cabinet during the dying days of the Callaghan government. "This is the only account of that period in history in York. Rich

honestly and as fairly as I can," says Benn, in a manner designed to chill the hearts of those who remain politically active.

But he will at least have given Neil Kinnock some comfort when he confessed yesterday that he no longer bankers after high office. Instead he is looking for a buyer for a television programme on his experiences during 40 years as an MP and has just finished work on *Burning Embers*, five late-night discussion programmes on social history to be broadcast on Channel 4 next month. He will discuss, with guests from both right and left, issues such as the poll tax, human rights, the future of socialism and Europe. Runnymede and the Berlin Wall are among the settings, but he fears the media reaction to that chosen for the first

Hackney psychiatric hospital. "Imagine the jokes they will make about the loony left," says Benn.

International ties

There's no end to the oddities of *glasnost*. When Tom King, the Defence Secretary, arrived in Moscow last week, his Special Branch bodyguards were met by their KGB counterparts who, to a man, sported Metropolitan Police ties. All was soon explained: they were a memento from a previous visit to Moscow by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. In return, King's Special Branch men asked the Soviet heavies for KGB ties to impress colleagues when they returned to London. Secret police do not usually trade in such ostentation, said the KGB men, but their headquarters is working on a suitable design for exchange on future visits.

Claus's odyssey

More than half a century after it was banned by Hitler, a comic opera by the Austrian composer Hans Gal will finally have its world premiere at the Royal Opera House in London on May 22. The Government does not understand the nature of the

Murder most foul

As always, the poll tax has dead-headed one of the favourite attractions of the Chelsea Flower Show. For the last seven years, amid the serried ranks of

Baker silent on Soviet trade treaty

From Martin Fletcher
Washington

R JAMES Baker, the US secretary of state, has consistently failed to list a collateral trade treaty among his accords he expects President Bush and Gorbachov to sign at their Washington summit beginning in eight days. The omission underscores the US's making the signing of such a treaty conditional on Soviet Union ending its economic squeeze on Lithuania and opening genuine negotiations with Baltic independence movements.

According to a report yesterday, Mr Baker made the link explicitly during Moscow talks last week between Mr Gorbachov and Mihail Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The trade is virtually complete, but Mr Baker made no mention of it in his statement after the talks, and one of several lesser commercial agreements to be signed at the summit. These included a grain agreement and a maritime transportation agreement.

With the Soviet economy in crisis, Mr Gorbachov probably needs the trade treaty more than he needs arms control agreements. It is a necessary precursor to the joining of the Soviet Union as a Favoured Nation trading status.

US officials have meanwhile returned from the Moscow talks with the view that Mr Gorbachov is still firmly in control but is paying greater deference to the Soviet military than he was in the past, they remarked on the unpreceded presence at the preliminary negotiations of Col-Gen Nikolay Omelianov, First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces and probably the second most powerful general in the Soviet military.

At one point Mr Baker believed he had reached an agreement with Mr Gorbachov on a new and improved strategic arms reduction treaty, but for the present at least, it failed to happen. Mr Baker responded by writing directly to Mr Gorbachov to say that idea was off unless his government was constituted. He would then be asked to resume negotiations.

Though the new Romanian government is unlikely to adopt the policies of its defeated Liberal and Peasants' Party opponents, even a president with over 80 per cent support should beware if he wishes to remain in office. History does not record a previous instance of a

SALVATION POSTPONED

Those Romanians — and there are many — whose integrity emerged intact from the dark age of the Ceausescu will have noticed that the National Salvation Front remained true to form even in the last stages of Sunday's general election. The Front's victory was announced by the Prime Minister, Mr Petre Roman, long before polling stations had closed, and before a single result had been declared. There was a nice understatement in the observers' verdict: "The democratic credentials of the National Salvation Front have not been fully established by this election."

Both Mr Roy Hattersley and Mrs Edwina Currie played down the scale of ballot-rigging, unlike the French Socialist, Mme Sonia Mink, who robustly declared: "None of the conditions for truly free elections has been met." Apart from doubtless varying experiences on Sunday, the contrast may have a cultural explanation. The French have always taken Romania seriously, and vice versa; the British, nurtured on *Dracula* and *The Prisoner of Zenda*, take a more frivolous view.

Greater caution on the part of the victors would have been wiser as well as more seemly. Gleaming, one of the most exquisite rewards of politics, could not be postponed. While Mr Hattersley's avuncular injunction to the Front to be fairer next time will scarcely strike terror into President Ion Iliescu and Mr Roman, there is a good chance that Romanians will be less gullible by the next election in 1992.

In the meantime, Romania must contemplate the prospect of an irregularly elected government, unfettered by any division of powers and composed of individuals with no previous reputation as democrats, drawing up the Constitution under which the same government will exercise its already overweening authority. Romania is a tinderbox in which a second revolution or *coup d'état*, whether from above or from below, could be ignited by the slightest political spark. Urban violence is all too likely in the months ahead, as a bankrupt government seeks to placate a nation hungry for the fruits of liberation.

Though the new Romanian government is unlikely to adopt the policies of its defeated Liberal and Peasants' Party opponents, even a president with over 80 per cent support should beware if he wishes to remain in office. History does not record a previous instance of a

communist party — even a purged one, rebaptized in the blood of a hated dictator — achieving such high levels of popularity in a genuinely free vote. If the Front is to allay suspicions, it must do three things.

First, the new Constitution must be the work of other hands besides its own. The familiar formula of the "round table", bringing government and opposition together to achieve national consensus, has worked well in Poland, Hungary and East Germany, though parliamentary democracy has now rendered round tables redundant. In Romania, however, the exercise of a virtual "elective dictatorship" by the Front would speedily lead to open defiance of the government in the streets of major cities, as in the election campaign.

Second, since street politics will undoubtedly continue to be a major factor in Romania, a non-partisan and multi-ethnic judiciary must be installed with powers to deal firmly but fairly with disorder. The absence of an independent judiciary, as a check upon an executive of dubious credentials, was fatal to parliamentary rule in central Europe between the wars. Only if justice is seen to be done will Romanians accept the State's monopoly of violence, without which an evolution towards democracy is impossible.

Finally, the Front has won the election without a clear commitment to rapid economic liberalization. Western aid has helped to stave off catastrophe during the interim period. In the long run there is no substitute for an even more drastic restructuring than elsewhere in Eastern Europe. With Germany united under capitalism; with advocates of the free market installed in Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia; and with the Soviet Union no longer able to cushion its former client states from world markets, shock treatment for the Romanian economy has become inescapable.

The "middle way" between socialism and a free-market economy is a chimera, as the rest of Eastern Europe (but not yet Romania) has already realized. The alternative to full integration into world markets, as Ceausescu well knew, is a nightmarish siege economy. If the new Romanian government follows that path, without the late dictator's brutal means to impose his autarkic wilderness, the disillusioned sansculotes will revenge themselves.

ALLY-FRIENDLY DIPLOMACY

A month is clearly a long time in European politics. In April, President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl issued a ringing call for the European Community to "accelerate" towards political union and to "invest this union with the necessary means of action." Most ambitious of all, they called for a common foreign and security policy.

How long ago that now seems. At the weekend, EC foreign ministers agreed without apparent difficulty that this was a long way over the top and that federal union was off the agenda. "No country," the French Foreign Minister opined, "is ready in 1990 to give up sovereignty over foreign and security matters." That was always the truth of the matter.

To that extent, the consensus so easily reached at the weekend represents the final stage of a familiar and reassuring cycle in EC affairs. Visionary ambitions are declared in the first stage. As the day for decision approaches, the outer limits of possibility become clearer. Finally, politicians knuckle down to determining common denominators that can be agreed and implemented. The gulf between rhetoric and realism may not be to British taste, but visionary ideas have had their part to play and the compromise has worked.

Until the middle of last year, British policy on the future development of the EC was conducted in one of two modes: silence or unilateral declaration. Mrs Thatcher's scepticism inhibited forward thinking in Whitehall, for instance on tactics which might head off otherwise unwelcome policies. Her stance of unilateral isolation had served her well in negotiations over agriculture and the Budget. Yet there have been many cases in which this stance has deprived Britain of natural allies.

The EC is a deal-making machine. Countries wishing to influence a decision need to negotiate. In the politics of the EC today, this is more than just trading votes on farm prices.

PHILANTHROPIC CONNOISSEURSHIP

The National Gallery would have had to milk every man, woman and child in Britain of £1 last week to have been able to afford Van Gogh's "Portrait of Dr Gachet". And the begging bowl would have come out again within a couple of days for Renoir's "Au Moulin de la Galette". But just a few successful meetings with one man, Mr Heinz Berggruen, have now netted it a superb collection of Impressionist and 20th-century art, on loan for at least five years, and worth more than five times as much as the Van Gogh.

So much for the argument that public galleries cannot compete in the market-place for masterpieces. Granted, they cannot afford the prices paid at auctions. Had Mr Ryecy Saito, the buyer of the two Impressionist paintings, asked if he could borrow the Berggruen Collection for five years to stash away in his private house, he would have got a dusty answer. Yet the National Gallery will end up with a collection that would have cost at least hundred times the Government's annual purchase grant, for nothing. The loan is initially for five years, but may be extended. After a few more meetings, perhaps Mr Berggruen can be persuaded to bequeath the paintings to the gallery in his will.

This loan is the latest in a long tradition of gifts, loans and bequests to public galleries. The National Gallery itself gained exhibition space and many paintings from Lord Duveen in the early part of the century. The Tate was founded by Sir Henry Tate, of sugar fame, who built it to house his collection of modern paintings; and the Victoria and Albert Museum has, among other gifts, the world's finest

collection of Constable sketches, donated by the artist's niece in the last century.

Private collectors tend to be possessive at first — like Mr Saito, who wants to gaze alone at his Van Gogh and Renoir for at least a decade before letting anyone else near them. Then they gradually start to open up to the public, as the Saatchi Collection has done. Finally, they turn philanthropic, and give the paintings away, sometimes in lieu of taxes.

This generosity is good news for public galleries, as long as they have the space to house the paintings. That the National was able to oblige was thanks to the combined efforts of Mr Walter Annenberg, who has paid \$5 million (£3.1 million) for the relevant rooms to be refurbished, and Lord Sainsbury, whose wing will house the paintings that will make room for the new collection. But nobody wants their paintings to be dropped on by a leaky roof. That the Government is willing to help address this problem is welcome.

Galleries must now stop complaining about gaps in their collections. It was apparently the fact that the National Gallery lacked Cubists which tempted Mr Berggruen towards London, where his paintings would make more of a splash. Clearly directors have to butter up those private collectors who own paintings of a period they need.

Mr Berggruen's choice is also a reflection on the engaging personalities of Mr Neil MacGregor, the museum's director, and Lord Rothschild, chairman of the board of trustees. Let nobody dare claim that businessmen are not useful to the arts. Contacts are now the name of the game, wherever they are made.

Rise in world birth rate

From Sir Charles Morrison, MP for Devizes (Conservative)

Sir, I welcome the news coverage given by *The Times* ("Birth rate going up faster than ever before", May 15) to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) report, "The state of the world's population 1990".

However, one impression gained from the report may be that family planning has been a failure. This is not so. In the last 20 years demand for family planning services in many parts of the world has outstripped supply. Where family planning services have been available, fertility has dropped. According to the organisation Family Health International, experience from 83 countries around the world shows that a 15 per cent increase in contraceptive use decreases fertility by nearly one child per woman.

Second, since street politics will undoubtedly continue to be a major factor in Romania, a non-partisan and multi-ethnic judiciary must be installed with powers to deal firmly but fairly with disorder. The absence of an independent judiciary, as a check upon an executive of dubious credentials, was fatal to parliamentary rule in central Europe between the wars.

Birth rates have fallen two to seven times faster in developing countries with effective family planning programmes than they did in Europe and America during a similar transition from high to low fertility. The UNFPA report quotes experience from Mexico to show that improved access to contraception doubled the use of modern methods of contraception from 12 per cent in 1974 to 24 per cent in 1976; by 1982 this figure had doubled again.

The message that we should be absorbing is that women in the developing world — just like their counterparts in the developed world — want family planning services to plan and space their families. The UNFPA report estimates that by the year 2000 there will be a 60 per cent increase in demand for family planning in the Third World. To meet this need we must increase the current share of overseas aid invested in family planning — now about 1 per cent. A doubling of this modest amount would go some way towards improving the daily life of women in the developing world and to slowing down the rate of population growth.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MORRISON
(Chairman, all-party group on population and development),
House of Commons.
May 15.

From Mr Eric Jeffs
Sir, Your report of the accelerating rate of growth of the global population is well timed against the environmental conference taking place in Norway. Every baby that comes into the world, throughout its life, will breathe out carbon dioxide and let out methane when it is flatulent.

A doubling of the global population in the next century will increase carbon dioxide emission more than we can cut it back through greater fuel efficiency in the remaining years of this century. The effect will be even greater because most of the population increase will be in the Third World, where the principal fuel is wood.

Are we not in danger of looking at the greenhouse effect as only a problem for the industrial world to solve, when the real long-term challenge is to find a global consensus on the need for family planning?

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JEFFS (European Editor),
Gas Turbine World/Cogeneration,
Teal Moat Lane, Prestwood,
Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.
May 15.

Economical reply

From Lord Molson

Sir, The clear explanation by Sir Patrick Nairne of the civil servants' technique of giving information to the public ("Yes Minister, please tell us more", May 8) is in line with that of one of his predecessors who was sitting beside his minister in the depths of the country in their car when he realised that they were lost.

They pulled up beside a yoked and the minister asked: "Where am I?" The yoked replied: "You are in your motor car, sir."

The civil servant commented: "That is a model for a parliamentary answer. It is accurate. It is brief. It conveys no information not already available."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
MOLSON,
House of Lords.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Commitment and cost for surgeons

From the President of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland

Sir, The reports by your Social Services Correspondent on May 4 and 5 regarding the new consultant contract, and the enquiry being conducted by the West Midlands Regional Health Authority into alleged abuse of their contract by some consultants, require further comment.

However, one impression gained from the report may be that family planning has been a failure. This is not so. In the last 20 years demand for family planning services in many parts of the world has outstripped supply. Where family planning services have been available, fertility has dropped. According to the organisation Family Health International, experience from 83 countries around the world shows that a 15 per cent increase in contraceptive use decreases fertility by nearly one child per woman.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 21: The Queen this evening visited the Chelsea Flower Show in the gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

The Lady Susan Hussey and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the Lord Burton and Major Sir Guy Acland, Bt, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening from the United States of America.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 21: This morning The Princess Royal attended the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers' Annual General Meeting and Governors' and Members' Luncheon at Hatfield House, Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

In the evening Her Royal Highness visited the Chelsea Flower Show.

Afterwards The Princess Royal, Colonel in Chief, The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), The Royal Coldstream Guards, Bell at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London.

Her Royal Highness was attended by Mrs Andrew Fielden and Mrs Charles Ritchie.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 21: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this evening visited the Chelsea Show of the Royal Horticultural Society in the Gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Alastair Airey were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 21: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, visited Duchy of Cornwall property on Dartmoor. Mr David Landale was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 21: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this evening visited the Chelsea Show of the Royal Horticultural Society in the Gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 21: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester this evening vis-

ited the Chelsea Flower Show of the Royal Horticultural Society in the gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester today opened the Annual Conference of the Heritage Co-ordination Group at the Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London, EC2. Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this morning named the 'Northamptonshire Rose' as part of the Northamptonshire County Council's Centenary Celebrations in the gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

In the evening Her Royal Highness visited the Chelsea Flower Show of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Mr Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

SJ ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 21: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Admiral of the British Overseas Trade Board, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, this morning visited Lyle and Scott, Liddesdale Road, Hawick and later visited the Scottish College of Textiles to view the "Fashion '90" Exhibition, Netherdale, Galashiels.

Their Royal Highnesses this afternoon visited Selkirk Glass Limited, Riverside Road, Selkirk and this evening attended a Reception/Barbecue to mark "Fashion '90" at Bowhill House, Selkirk, Scotland.

Mrs Peter Troughton and Captain the Hon. Christopher Knott were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

May 21: Princess Alexandra, President, this afternoon attended the Annual General Court of the Royal Humane Society which was held at Haberdashers' Hall, Staining Lane, London, EC2. Mrs Peter Aitken was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness and Sir Angus Ogilvy this evening visited the Chelsea Show of the Royal Horticultural Society in the Gardens of the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 21: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester this evening vis-

ited the work of Paul de Lamerie at Goldsmiths' Hall at 11.30.

Birthdays today

Mr Kenny Ball, trumpeter, 59; Mr George Best, footballer, 44; Miss Cheryl Campbell, actress, 41; Viscount Dunsire, 64; the Right Rev Douglas Feaver, former Bishop of Peterborough, 76; Mr Robin Fender, former High Sheriff of Gloucestershire, 90; Mr James Fitzgerald, racehorse trainer, 55; Dr Desmond Hawking, president, Hughes Hall, Cambridge, 67; Professor Sir William Haworth, former Master, Churchill College, Cambridge, 77; Sir Mark Heath, diplomat, 63; Professor W.G. Hoskins, landscape historian, 82; Sir Edwin Leather, former Governor of Bermuda, 71; Mr Hew Lorimer, sculptor, 83; Mr Paul Mariner, footballer, 37; Mr Victor Manoukian, former MP, 84; Sir Alan Pulkingham, former chairman, Hadrian Carrier, 77; the Earl of Shaftesbury, 52; Mrs Betty Williams, Nobel laureate, 47; Mr Ernest Wischik, former director, European Movement, 67.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Hubert Robert, landscape painter, Paris, 1733; William Sturgeon, electrical engineer, Whitington, Lancashire, 1783; Gerard de Nerval, poet, Paris, 1808; Richard Wagner, Leipzig, 1813; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Edinburgh, 1859; DEATHS: Constantine I, The Great, Roman emperor, 312-337; Nicomedia (Izniz), Turkey, 337; Maria Edgeworth, novelist, Edgeworthstown, (Meathas Troim, Ireland), 1849; Alessandro Manzoni, poet, Milan, 1873; Victor Hugo, Paris, 1885; Lady Augusta Gregory, dramatist and founder of the Irish Literary Theatre, Coole, Ireland, 1932;

prise, presided at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government last night at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Philip M. Condit.

Service dinner

University of London OTC
Brigadier S.G.M. Gordon, Commandant 12 Signal Brigade (V), was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Signals Sub-Unit, University of London OTC held last night at the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Peter K. Williams to be HM Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in succession to Mr E. Davies who will be taking up a further Diplomatic Service appointment.

Mr Richard A. Neilsen to be HM Ambassador to the Republic of Chile in succession to Mr Alan White who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Mrs A. E. Bowles, CB, to be seconded from the Department of Social Security to the Department of Health as principal establishment and finance officer.

Mr E. Caines to be director of personnel for the National Health Service.

Mr R. A. Birch to be deputy secretary (Grade 2), Social Security Policy Group.

Mr N. L. J. Meagor to be deputy secretary (Grade 2), director of Social Security Operations.

Dinners

Lord High Commissioner
Lord Ross, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Lady Ross gave a dinner last night at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Among those present were:

Lady Steven, Sir Edward Peacock, Dr John Atkin and Mrs Mrs Campbell, Mr and Mrs Timothy Clifford, The Rev Douglas and Mrs Macmillan, Mr and Mrs McCrae, Mr and Mrs Brian North, Mr McCrae, Mr and Mrs Angus Paterson, Mr and Mrs Peter Gillies, Mr and Mrs Douglas Hogg, QC, Minister for Industry and Enter-

OBITUARIES

CAPTAIN J. W. G. JAMES



Captain John Wynford George James, OBE, FRAeS, FCIT, former Chief Pilot and Flight Operations Director of British European Airways, died aged 79 on May 17. He was born on February 13, 1911.

CAPTAIN "Jimmy" James, as he was universally known throughout the air transport business, was one of the few surviving ex-Captains of the historic HP 42 landplanes and Short C-Class Empire flying-boats of Imperial Airways Ltd before the War. He went on to a distinguished wartime career on BOAC's North and South Atlantic air routes before joining the newly formed BEA as Chief Pilot in 1946.

He was educated at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester. He was then apprenticed to the Cirus Hermes aeroplane company at Croydon Airport. There he soon gained a full set of aircraft engineering and aero-engine licences, learned to fly, qualified for his "Wireless Telegraphy Licence", a 2nd Class Navigator's Certificate and a Commercial Pilot's Licence. In 1932 he went to see Squadron Leader Herbert Brackley, Air Superintendent of Imperial Airways, and thereafter began his career on Imperial Airways' European air services.

James's enthusiasm and skill brought him rapid promotion and by 1935, at the age of 24, he was in command of HP 42 and AW Atlanta four-engine airliners based at Cairo for African air routes. In 1937 he transferred to Empire flying-boats at Southampton on Far East routes. Next year he was in at the start of Imperial's experimental flight-refuelled flying-boat services across the North

Atlantic. That led, during the War, to intensive flying-boat operations on BOAC's North and South Atlantic and West and South African services.

In 1946, with 10,500 flying hours and more than one-and-a-half million air miles to his credit, James transferred from BOAC to BEA as Chief Pilot. He commanded most of the early proving flights of the Vickers Viking, including hazardous winter flights over the North Sea to clear the aircraft for safe use in heavy icing conditions. Appointed BEA's Flight Operations Manager in 1948, he was for five years Chairman of

DR ANN BISHOP

Dr Ann Bishop, FRS, a pioneer in the fight against malaria by modern methods who directed the Medical Research Council's Chemotherapy Research Unit in Cambridge from 1947 to 1964, has died aged 90. She was born on December 19, 1899.

drugs, a serious problem that had already surfaced with the introduction of sulphonamides to combat bacterial infection.

From 1942 onwards, Ann Bishop and her young assistants in the Molteneo Institute dedicated themselves to this problem. With few precedents to guide them, they were obliged to develop new experimental approaches, first in order to produce strains of malaria parasites that were highly resistant to the important new drugs that the chemists were producing, then to find out how the parasites achieved this and how the resistance would be passed to successive generations.

The seminal contributions that Ann Bishop made over a period of 25 years laid a firm foundation on which much of today's renewed efforts in the study of anti-malarial drug resistance have been based. The basic zoological approaches that she devised remain fundamental to current anti-malarial research.

Born in Manchester, she received her early education at Manchester High School. She read Natural Sciences at Manchester University and obtained the John Dalton Natural History Prize.

Her research activities in zoology began in Cambridge as a research student of Girton College, where she was to be a Fellow from 1937 until 1964. Obtaining her PhD in 1926, she joined the National Institute for Medical Research, working on the structures and life history of certain amoebae parasites in man and animals and their responses to anti-amoebic drugs.

At the Molteneo Institute from 1929 she continued to work on parasitic protozoa, among them *Entamoeba histolytica*, the amoeba causing dysentery in humans. She was the first, with H. D. Bayon, to isolate the organism *Histomonas* and to show that it was responsible for the disease known as "blackhead" in poultry.

From 1938, when she began to work for the Medical Research Council, Ann Bishop read widely and travelled much around England, knowing many parts intimately, particularly the Lake District where she loved walking. But, above all perhaps, she never forgot that she was a Mancunian.

Research Council. Ann Bishop concentrated on problems of avian malaria and the effects on it of the many drugs produced to combat human malaria. These studies showed that resistance to many drugs could be acquired by the avian malaria parasite and that resistance developed towards one type of drug could make the parasite resistant to another drug, that is, cross resistance. Her approaches then were later to be adapted, first to rodent and then to human models.

She had served on the Malaria Committee of the World Health Organisation and in 1959 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. She was a founder member of several smaller companies in what was an attempt to establish a British pharmaceuticals group that would compete in world markets. The same year he became Chairman of Richard Crittall Holdings, the heating and ventilation group, and was appointed to the board of the Equity and Law Life Assurance Society.

In 1949 Eley became a

member of the London Electricity Board and joined the Court of the Bank of England. He confessed at the time that the Bank's invitation came as a complete surprise, but it naturally enhanced his status as a leading representative of British business.

In 1950 he joined Thomas Tilling, the industrial holding company, where he became Chairman in 1965 and remained on the board until 1976. Within a few months he also forged what was to be another long-lasting association, as Director and Deputy Chairman of the British Bank of the Middle East. This appointment was also to lead to his heading a UK trade mission to Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia in 1955, soon after Gamal Abdel Nasser had assumed power and shortly before the Suez crisis.

But he also found time to add to his commitments at home, becoming in 1953 chairman of Brush Group, a diesel and electrical engineering company. It was taken

SIR GEOFFREY ELEY

Sir Geoffrey Cecil Ryves Eley, CBE, industrialist and former director of the Bank of England, died aged 85 on May 17. He was born on July 18, 1904.

A FINANCIAL journalist in the early part of his career, Sir Geoffrey Eley became known in the 1930s and 1960s as one of Britain's most active industrialists, collecting a string of directorships and chairmanships of leading companies at a time when takeovers were becoming more common and newspapers were beginning to pay more attention to the personalities involved in such battles.

Sir Geoffrey's style of taking charge of a vast and disparate catalogue of unrelated businesses became fashionable in the immediate post-war era, but now occurs only rarely. This also reflects the greater complexity and competitiveness of the modern business environment.

Geoffrey Eley was born into a middle-class Suffolk family. His father, Charles, was a JP and won the Royal Horticultural Society's Victoria Medal of Honour. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, winning a Darwin Scholarship to Harvard.

On his return to England in 1926, Eley joined the staff of the Financial News. After two years he went into the City, becoming engaged in banking, finance and brokerage not only in London but also in France, Switzerland and the United States. For seven years from 1932 he was London manager of Post and Flag, members of the New York Stock Exchange. In 1937 Eley married Penelope Hughes, daughter of Admiral Sir Frederick Wake-Walker.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Eley joined Naval Intelligence, but the authorities soon exploited his financial and commercial experience. He joined the Capital Issues Committee in 1940, moving a year later to the Ministry of Supply to be Director of Contracts in charge of capital assistance to industry. He remained in that post until 1946, when he helped in the task of disposing of overseas assets.

This wide range of jobs gave Eley a considerable list of contacts, which helped him gain successively more responsible appointments. In 1948 he was made Chairman of British Drug Houses, the product of the merger of several smaller companies in what was an attempt to establish a British pharmaceuticals group that would compete in world markets. The same year he became Chairman of Richard Crittall Holdings, the heating and ventilation group, and was appointed to the board of the Equity and Law Life Assurance Society.

But Sir Geoffrey was to come under attack by shareholders at Crittall who complained that his commitments were "too extensive to give full attention to the affairs of the company", after the company announced a sharp fall in profits. Earlier that year he retired from the board of Baldwin's, and at the age of 60 began to reduce his activities.

Sir Geoffrey leaves his widow, two sons and two daughters.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.C.F. de M. Blundell and Mrs C.A.H. Oliver

The engagement is announced between Nigel Blundell, of London, and Christine Oliver, of Moor Common, Buckinghamshire.

Mr S.G. Hayes and Miss D.L. Hart

The engagement is announced between Simon Stager Hayes, youngest son of Mr and Mrs F.H. Hayes of Boston Manor, London, and Denise Laura, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.F. Hart of Wimbledon, London.

Mr N.J. Heaven and Miss G.P. Bain

Mr and Mrs A.A. Bain, of Tilney, Gloucester, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Gillian Patricia, to Mr Nigel John Heaven, of Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Mr S.S. Jenkins RN and Sarg Lt A.M. Judd RN

The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs B.S. Jenkins, of Beeston, Tarpole, Cheshire, and Annalisa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs P.J. Judd, of Newbury, Berkshire.

Mr R.H.F. Leishman and Miss N.C. Lansdale

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Lansdale, of Epsom, Surrey, and Nichola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Lansdale, of Horton, Dorset.

Mr J.D. Owen and Mrs H.M. Gay

The marriage took place on Friday, May 18, 1990, at North Wroxall, between Mr John Doreen Owen and Mrs Heather Gay.

Mr J. Steele and Miss N.M. Crittall

The marriage took place on Saturday, May 19, at St Mark's Church, Whitley Village, of Mr Lawson Steele, son of Mr Roger Steele and Mrs Everett Price, and Miss Nichola Crittall, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Crittall, of Oakmead, Cobham, Surrey. The Rev Franklin Rice officiated, assisted by the Chaplain of Whitley Village, the Rev R. Hawkins.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by Honor Coates and Miss Sally Forrest. Mr Clive Watson was best man.

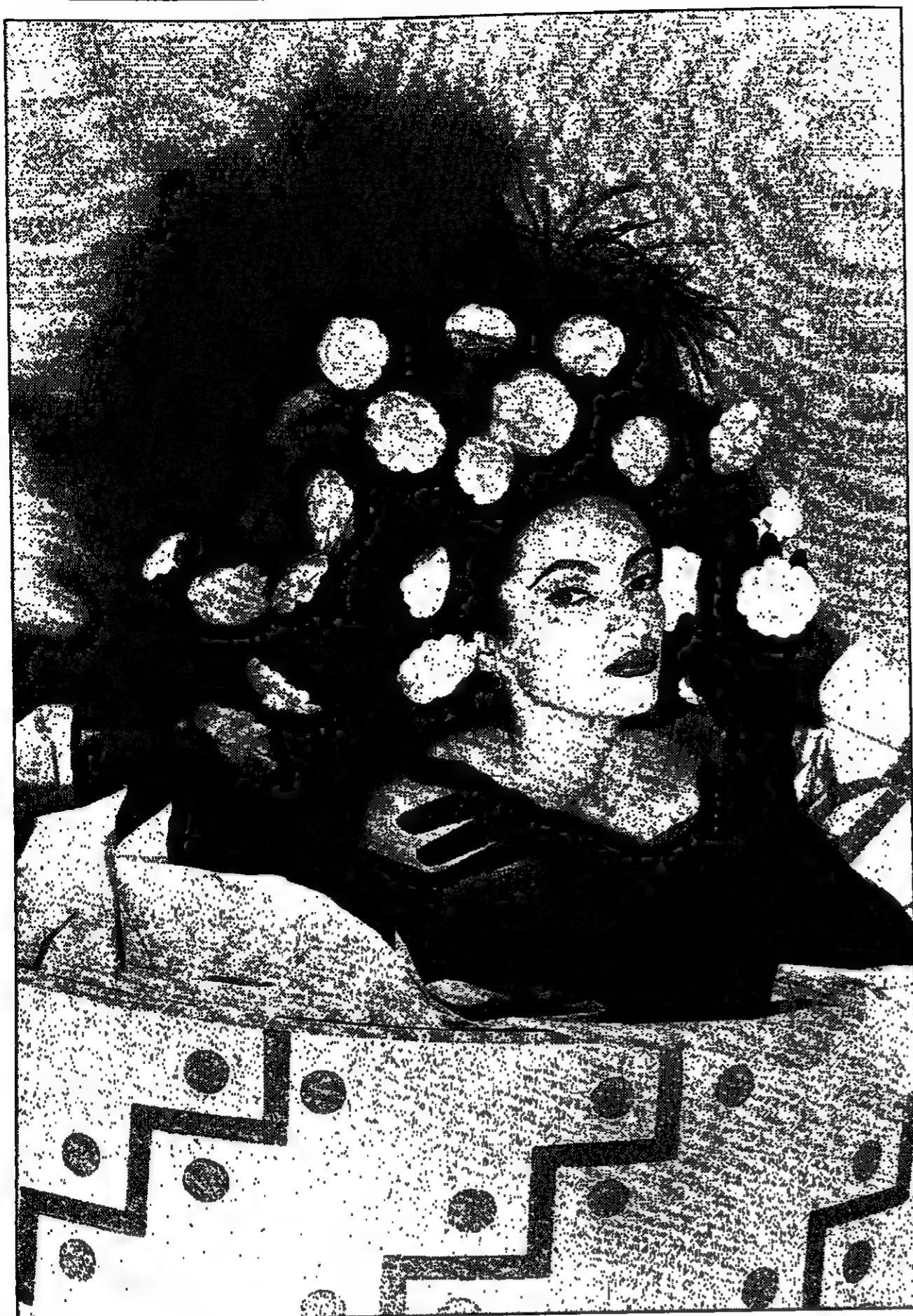
A reception was held at the home of the bride, and the honeymoon is being spent in Thailand.

Lord Wade of Charlton

Sir William Outlaw Wade The life barony conferred upon Sir William Outlaw Wade has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Wade of Charlton, of Chester in the County of Cheshire.

Lord Cavendish of Furness

Mr J.R. Rothwell and Mrs A.A.C. Norman The engagement is announced between Maximilian James Rainshaw, elder son of Mr and Mrs Richard Rothwell, of Morebath, Devon,



Black satin and tulle hat, scattered with gardenias and Mohican ostrich feather plumes, worn by Antoinette Ancelle

With a snip and a snap, the look is complete

EVERY designer with a strong signature must occasionally shudder at the way his precious creations are portrayed in magazines; their identity is blurred by being mixed with another designer's clothes, or fitted to some off-beat story-line of fashion editor and photographer.

Those who can afford it invest in glossy magazine pages and brief photographers to put across the image they want to project. Not Karl Lagerfeld.

The German-born couturier they call Kaiser Karl, who talks four languages at the same brisk clip, gives the impression that creating more collections in a season than any other designer is fun. And he believes that the most natural way to work is a relentless round of commuting from his house in Hamburg to the Chanel and Karl Lagerfeld studios in Paris, Fendi in Rome and his German KL fashion house.

Despite all, he has now carved out yet another career. He felt that watching someone else click the shutter on an ensemble that he had created — right down to the last tug at a collar, or the coiff of a short, glossy bob of hair — was crazy. So Mr Lagerfeld, fashion and portrait photographer, was born: for the past three years he has added to his workload the task of doing all the promotional photographs for his collections, and for Parfums Lagerfeld, as well as snapping portraits of friends, colleagues, politicians and models.

An exhibition of his photographic work at Hamilton Gallery in London is to be opened next week by Princess Caroline of Monaco, a friend and regular sitter for his portrait photographs; all proceeds will go to the Peter Le Marchant Trust, a charity which helps the handicapped with holidays and travel. To celebrate the exhibition, he has created for the Chanel shop in Bond Street a collection of hats for The Season, and photographed them exclusively for *The Times*.

"The photography works like a Hollywood production, with a team of 15, and with me in the role of director," he says. Having designed the giant hatboxes piled

Karl Lagerfeld shows how the Ascot hat can be a work of art when photographer and designer are one



Karl Lagerfeld: 'I have a vision'

with tissue paper out of which his models would pop wearing the confections, he worked through the night. "In the Ascot crowd personalities, not clothes, stand out," he says. "The hat is what matters. Just a simple navy or black suit is best."

Dressed invariably in a dark suit, waistcoat, with jewelled pin stuck jauntily in a sober tie and with hair slicked back into a ponytail, Mr Lagerfeld has always hustled about taking Polaroids, snipping cuttings, sketching friends and houses and parties for the visual journals that he keeps. "My optical journal. I always illustrated the books I read as a child," he says. His friend, the eccentrically dressed Italian fashion journalist Anna Piaggi, published his sketches of her made, during weekends in his Brittany château and at parties in his

apartments in a Roman palazzo or at the Left Bank *hôtel particulier* where he is based.

Mr Lagerfeld says his interest in photography has affected the way he designs: "I design for a certain look, for a face." The face that inspired the Lagerfeld designs that turned around the fortunes of the house of Chanel in the Eighties, and the model in the first official photographs he took was that of Inès de la Fressange. The aristocratic, dark-haired Mlle de la Fressange became inseparable from the Chanel image until Mr Lagerfeld abruptly ended her contract with the company after a much-publicized row last year. His current favourite model is, in contrast, a bosomy Bardot-like blonde called Claudia Schiffer. The role of muse and friend played during six years by Mlle de la Fressange has been taken on by Princess Diane de Beauvau Craon.

For the photographs in his exhibition he persuaded the five powerful sisters who run Fendi to dress in flowing togas and his assistant, Gilles Dufour, to do himself up with tiny spectacles and floppy tie as Gustav Mahler. Portraits of Princess Caroline and of Jack Lang, France's Minister of Culture, hang alongside.

Mr Lagerfeld says that Alfred Stieglitz and Edward Steichen, both Germans, have made a greater impression on him than contemporary photographers. His favourite is an old friend, Helmut Newton, whose racy cinematic style is a clear influence in a set of action fashion pictures by Mr Lagerfeld in the next issue of *British Vogue*.

As in everything he touches, from the decoration of his houses (he recently acquired yet another, a manor in Le Mée, about 40 miles from Paris) to his innumerable collections of clothes and accessories, his eye is assured. "I have a vision," he says. "Then I don't change my mind. I do it."

• An exhibition of Karl Lagerfeld's photographs opens at Hamilton Gallery, Carlton Place, W1, on May 30. The new Karl Lagerfeld shop is at 201 Sloane Street, SW1. Chanel is at 26 Old Bond Street, W1; 31 Sloane Street, SW3.

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ARTS

Quality uneven, quantity excellent

Cannes Film Festival 1990: David Robinson looks at the winners, losers and no-hoppers in a year when, at least, there were as many films competing as there were prizes to be won

Having done time on festival juries (including Venice last year and Cannes the year before) I am inclined to envy this year's Cannes jury, headed by Bernardo Bertolucci and with Christopher Hampton as the British representative.

The usual predicament is that there are more prizes than films to earn them. This year there were certainly enough films to go round; and to the last moment it was hard to guess the outcome.

Bertrand Tavernier's *Daddy Nostalgia*, which I reviewed last week, remained a front-runner up to the end, with Dirk Bogarde a powerful contender for Best Actor Prize. Clint Eastwood's *White Hunter, Black Heart* clearly deserved an award. There was some piquancy in the presence of Anjelica Huston on the jury, since Eastwood himself plays her father John Huston — not entirely flatteringly — in this film about the making of *The African Queen*.

It was a festival of the unexpected. Who, for instance, could have imagined that Rostand's stately and oft-filmed old warhorses could have made a film with the panache and freshness of Jean-Paul Rappeneau's *Cyrano de Bergerac*? Rappeneau and the writer Jean-Claude Carrière have brushed up the text, while honouring the Alexandre verse.

Largely filmed in Hungary, with 2,000 extras, innumerable horses (for the *Battle of Arms*) and a great cameraman, Pierre Lhomme, the film is a non-stop visual feast. Gérard Depardieu's Cyrano is a historic performance. This great, shambling, overweight man with his ordinarily beaten-up face further disfigured by the legendary proboscis, brings extraordinary grace and sensibility to the irascible Gascon, and makes the flowery couplets appear to be his natural vernacular.

Who, again, in the current political climate would have ex-

pected a Russian film-maker to remake a hoary Socialist classic like Gorki's *Mother*? Who, certainly, could have expected that a film of more than three hours long could be as gripping or as contemporary in relevance as this new version by Giebel Panfilov?

The story is about a simple woman who becomes involved, through her son, in the proletarian struggle against tsarist oppression. Panfilov makes the story a generalized metaphor of the abuse of power and the aspirations of the working masses, equally relevant to tsarist history, the later communist experience and the power vacuum in present-day Europe.

The wisdom and relevance of *Mother* is refreshing after much of recent Soviet cinema, which has a very fast-off-the-socket look.

Another Soviet competition entry, Pavel Lungin's *Taxi Blues*, is an extravagant contemporary fantasy about a taxi driver who turns a welsch customer into his slave. Young Vassili Pishulin, who won international fame and fortune with his first film *Little Vera*, has not sustained the promise. His second film, *Oh, How Dark Are the Black Sea Nights*, is a confused and untautened concoction about a man living off Soviet red tape.

Giuseppe Tornatore's *Everybody's Doing Fine* promises to repeat the pattern of his Oscar-winning *Cinema Paradiso*: dubious critical reaction but runaway commercial success. Tornatore is a true naïf: his films disconcertingly juxtapose moments of wonderful originality with shameless sentimentality and cliché.

Everyone's *Doing Fine* has Marcello Mastroianni, disguised behind pebbled glasses, as an old Sicilian civil servant traveling through Italy to visit his five children. At first refusing to recognize that none of them has achieved his high hopes for them, he learns the not-so-profound lesson that it is best for parents to love their children for what they are and not what they would wish them to be.

The old master, Federico Fellini wisely showed *The Voice of the Moon* out of competition. The worst of his career, it is a chaotic, misanthropic and incomprehensible fable, with the whimsical comedian Roberto Benigni as a present-day Pinocchio.

David Lynch's *Wild at Heart* is not the kind of film that wins Grand Prix, but the young American director of *The Elephant Man* and *Blue Velvet* does have an exceptional gift for visualization. His film is a horrificomic of the violence of contemporary America. The lugubrious Nicholas Cage and Laura Dern are on the run through the Southern States, pursued by the girl's jealous mother (Diane Ladd, Dern's real-life mother) and a variety of killers with shameless sentimentality and cliché.

Everyone's *Doing Fine* has



Powerful contention: the Best Actor award: Dirk Bogarde in Bertrand Tavernier's *Daddy Nostalgia*

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TELEVISION

IF SOMEONE told you there were a high-security prison for women purpose-built underground, painted entirely in white to cause sensory deprivation and specifically used for convicts who had only ever committed non-violent political crimes, you could be forgiven for assuming it was somewhere in South Africa or maybe the pre-glasnost Eastern Bloc. It is therefore more than a little scary to find that for two years the prison existed in Lexington, Kentucky, and was only closed down a few months ago as a result of local and family pressure.

Nina Rosenblum's chilling documentary, *Through the Wire*, opened a new Channel 4 series of *Made In The USA* last night and told the case histories of three women who for 20 months were kept in isolation, regularly strip-searched, and never allowed to escape the eye of a video camera. The Kentucky prison was finally ruled illegal, but only after Amnesty and the UN had declared that it failed to meet "elemental [sic] standards of decency".

Even at the height of the McCarthy panic of the early 1950s it is unlikely that American political prisoners were treated with such psychological torment as was imposed on the women arrested in Kentucky. The question unanswered by the documentary is how many of the 16 similar prisons under construction will be allowed to open by a nation still ready to protest at the torture of political prisoners elsewhere.

How very different, we may hope, from home life in our own penal institutions: an unusually issue schedules at Channel 4 used the hour before *Through The Wire* to screen *She's Done Her Bird*, which also told the story of three female prisoners and was moved back from early April for legal reasons. The trio here was Sue, in for violence under the influence of drink; Jo, in for fraud, and Michelle, in for arson, though described as well-meaning (except, presumably, when armed with a lighter).

All three were observed by Anne Parson's cameras on their way out of prison where nothing as horrible had happened to them as to their less violent sisters in Kentucky. Indeed, prison had provided them with a kind of club unknown elsewhere, which is presumably why they were almost eager to get back inside.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

John Perceval on two contrasting exercises in the reconstruction of historic ballets

Dusting the classics

RECONSTRUCTIONS in Paris and Amsterdam of two long-forgotten ballets, seemingly different despite their common title, the *Legend of Thor* (1785), sometimes described as the first modern ballet because its creator, Jean Dauber, was a pioneer in taking ordinary people as his subject. He was too successful for his own good. His *Fille* made such an impression that one choreographer after another borrowed his plot. As author, he might be proud that his ballet has never vanished from the repertoire in 200 years, but as choreographer he would envy successors who took his place.

Now Jean-Paul Gravellier, ballet director in Nantes, has traced in a Stockholm library the pot-pourri score of popular tunes he used, with *Dauber's* own detailed notes for the music. With these clues, Ivo Grün, a specialist in historical choreography, has staged the work in the spirit, if not exactly the letter, of the original.

The story is told with lively humour, clearly, directly, and economically. Even with the full set of dances at the end, to celebrate the birth of a son, it is shorter than almost all recent versions. All the dancing is done in heelless shoes; most of it based on country dances; if Grün has got it right (and the result looks convincing), Dauber's *Fille* has no less charm than Ashton's inspired treatment, the best of modern versions.

Boumanville's *The Lay Of Thrym*, although created much later than *Fille*, feels far more old-fashioned. It looks back to the earlier tradition of ballets about gods; in this instance the gods come from Nordic myth. The Danish choreographer had long been interested in them, and made this work, in 1868, for practical reasons — its popularity averting a threatened cut in subsidy.

Tales of the river bank

Classical Music:
Paul Griffiths on a Sunday of music and dance by the Thames

This was a whole musical festival in a day: a day of music and song presented by Crucial and the South Bank to raise money for Aids relief. It ended roundly with a massive gesture of hope, in a hasty performance of the finale from *Idilio*, with John Mauceri conducting assembled soloists, choirs and the Philharmonic Orchestra.

Beethoven's opera also provided the opening music for the evening gala concert, when Simon Rattle conducted a vivid account of the third *Leonore* overture. Here, it was clear the occasion was being treated not as a glamorous night out with the stars but as a real artistic event: Rattle and the Philharmonic strings achieved an extraordinary *passionismo* in the introduction, and an exhilaratingly dangerous final crescendo.

The hope conveyed by *Idilio* was, of course, entirely appropriate to the circumstances of the day, which Graham Vick and John Drummond planned as a celebration, not a requiem. Yet the choice of other items was necessarily conditioned by the singer available. Two excerpts from *Don Giovanni*, with Sir Donald Milnes still looking and sounding a sensual threat, were particularly caustic in the context of so much generosity. It was also a little odd to hear Felicity Lott, however beguiling, contemplating fading beauty in the Marschallin's monologue from *Der Rosenkavalier*.

But a sequence of extracts from *Fairy and Bess* hit every possible nail on the head. Anyone planning a charity concert should take note that one only needs to wheel in Rattle and his Glyndebourne team to guarantee the simultaneous excellence and enjoyment these events depend on. Willard White and Cynthia Haymon simply were Fory and Bess, touching and tender, while Damon Evans as Sporit' Life seems to get ever more cajoling and risky every time he tells us it's not necessarily so. The chorus played along with him wonderfully, even pulling off one of his squeal slides.

Also much in the encouragingly combatively hedonistic spirit of the day was the afternoon Thames river cruise taking in diverse musical entertainments. The first stop was Deptford, for a performance of Monteverdi's *Il combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda* in a warehouse: a venue with all the charm and acoustic suitability of a multi-storey car park.

It was a great pity that so much was lost, since Richard Jones had devised a simple, effective staging which slowly unrolled like a carpet between two parallel lines of standing onlookers. Omar Ebrahim was particularly good as the narrator, using the informal setting to establish an immediate rapport with his audience.

Paul Harry's Tancred and Teresa Shaw's Clorinda, wearing



Dancer: Adventures in Motion Pictures in action for *Music for Life*

modern clothes but with the visor, helmet and swords demanded by the story, well merited the keen focus, and I hope this *Musica nel Cielo* (some clichéd) production will have a life elsewhere. If it does, maybe Jones will reconsider his curious — and in the context of this day, falsely — sentimental final gesture, in which the dying Clorinda is slowly approached by four creatures with blond wigs, miniature angels' wings and the white coats of hospital orderlies. Ivo Bolton directed the small accompanying instrumental ensemble from the harpsichord, and again much was inevitably lost.

The next stop was architecturally more rewarding, but musically less so, though at least an undistinguished performance of Handel's *Dixit Dominus* had the advantage of letting one admire the emphatic beige and blue baroque splendour of the Royal Naval College Chapel. Then it was back to the boat, for Brahms's *Liebeslieder Walzer* to offer a sensitive alternative to the views of docks and dereliction, and so to the city for dance performances by Adventures in Motion Pictures.

* A classical music column will appear every Friday and Tuesday



SADLER'S WELLS



CRITICS' CHOICE CLASSICAL MUSIC

CONCERTS

SCHOENBERG PLUS: David Atherton conducts last two stimulating London Sinfonia programmes planned by the late Michael Nyman. Tonight: Schoenberg's *Verdura Nach und Sonnende* (solist, David Wilcock-Johnson) and Henze's *Requiem* (David Wilson). On Saturday: Schoenberg's Three Chamber-pieces and Chamber Symphony No 1; plus his arrangement of Mahler's *Mayraten* Song (Alfredo Hodges) and the premiere of Bent Sørensen's *Shadow*.

Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm, £25-£12.50.

NORRINGTON/BEETHOVEN: Roger Norrington's sometimes unexpected views on Beethoven in two Philharmonic programmes. Tomorrow: the *Eroica* Overture and *Ercole* Symphony plus Christian Zacharias in Piano Concerto No 1; on Sunday this ever-challenging Mississippiana with Alison Hargan, Claire Powell, Philip Langridge, Gwynne Howell, Philharmonic Chorus (no interval), Royal Festival Hall (as above), 7.30pm, £25-£18.

ODE AND NEW: Last programme of London Mozart Players' season features Ode by Robin Holloway (his *Classics* just premiered by ENO) between Haydn's *Stabat Mater* concerto and Mozart's *Symphony 34*, with British's Frank Bridge *Veneziano* to start. Jane Glover conducts Queen Elizabeth Hall (as above), tomorrow, 7.45pm, £24.50-£14.

ENGLAND IN MUSIC: Views from abroad in *Rob Roy* (Berlitz), *Scottish Fantasy* (Brussels) with violin soloist Lydia Mordkovitch, *Marche écossaise* (Debussy), "Scottish" Symphony (Mendelssohn) in Glasgow Mayfest; Jerzy MakSYMOWSKI conducting BBC Scottish Orchestra, City Hall, Candleriggs, Glasgow (041-227 5511), tomorrow, 7.30pm, £3-£2.

POLISH ELGAR: Polish Chamber Orchestra on UK tour reaches Glasgow Mayfest, directed by violinist Jan Staniak in Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, Mozart and Bartók.

Divertimenti, Violin Concertos by Bach (A minor) and Vivoli (4 violins). City Hall (as above), Thurs., 7.30pm, £2-£7.

BATH FESTIVAL: Opening concert by City of London Sinfonia with Westmead Singers in Faure's *Requiem*. Bill Davison conducting three-choir *Coronation* suite to begin. Bath Abbey (0225 463362/465841), Fri., 7.30pm, £2-£12.

FRENCH ULSTER: Ulster Orchestra specially increased to 91 players for *Daphnis et Chloé* (Ravel) in test of season's concerts. All-French programme conducted by Yan Pascal Tortelier includes *Jeu* (Debussy) and US pianist Jeffrey Siegel in Saint-Saëns' *Caractéro* No 2. Ulster Hall, Belfast (0232 233240), Fri., 7.45pm, £3.75 and £3.50.

SHEDDONIAN BAROQUE: Baroque instrumentalists The English Concert directed by Trevor Pinnock in first of three "Music at Oxford" programmes. Mark Bennett (trumpet) and Paul Goodwin (oboe) are Haydn's concertino solists, framed by Mozart Symphonies 29 and 26.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS

TUESDAY MAY 22 1990

الإمارات

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Green plays down talk of BSB buy

placed two neatly paws on the desk and peered, bright-eyed, at next interrogator, immediately demanding his small deposit would be spotless. Mrs G thought it would do him no harm, but being a gerbil expert, she knew he was gerbil, not all. The question goes, first to say that it was the Michael Meader, a class warrior and kinsman, accused of being a bit of a collector, not so that the money could be helped, but of the burden of the law now rests on him. The answer is that he has already retired from tiny claw-marked contract, Queensberry Communications, a member of the Eastcourt Group. Mr Ian Green MP, Labour's Conservative spokesman, said that the last time he saw the Christopher Chancer could not be seen, he was in Bow.

The interim dividend rises from 3.06p to 5.508p, and Carlton says it will pay a total of 14.059p in the current year, a 50 per cent increase.

These dividend gains will also improve the balance between the interim and final payments. The shares, hit badly in recent months, lost another 30p to 510p after the figures.

The group has net cash, or its equivalent, of more than £60 million, and is looking at further acquisitions in the television and media fields, particularly in Britain.

It bid for Thames in 1985, but was blocked by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which is now thought to be taking a more open-handed view to bids in the sector.

However, Mr Green said any purchase of a stake in BSB would be "uncharacteristic."

Temps, page 27

ABF advances

Associated British Foods, with cash and investment balances of £1.2 billion, made pre-tax profits of £283.8 million (£237.1 million) in the year to end-March. Turnover rose to £2.77 billion (£2.49 billion). A final dividend of 7.7p (6.5p) makes 11p (9.3p) for the year.

Temps, page 27

Amber buy

Amber Day Holdings is to pay £46.7 million for the What Everyone Wants Group, a Scottish discount department store chain. WEW is more than twice Amber Day's size and there is to be a heavy five-for-eight rights issue at 45p to raise £13.2 million to help pay for the purchase.

Temps, page 27

Philips sued by investors in America

By Our European Business Correspondent

UNITED States investors have filed a lawsuit against Philips, the troubled Dutch electronics firm, over alleged misrepresentation of trading and earnings prospects.

A statement by Philips said: "Shareholders in the United States have filed a lawsuit against Philips alleging that, in the period between January 8 and May 3, 1990, Philips gave incorrect information about the course of the business."

Although such cases are common in the US, it is rare for US shareholders to sue a European company with a US listing. In Europe itself, legal action on such grounds is virtually unheard of.

If the lawsuit is successful, it may force European companies to consider revealing more information to investors, or alternatively, to withdraw their United States listings.

Shareholders in Philips have been angered at the company's recent announcement of a fall in first quarter profits from Fl 223 million to Fl 16 million (£6 million).

Investors and analysts have been infuriated not so much by the bad results themselves, but by the fact that Philips gave no prior indication of its financial position.

Mr Wisse Dekker, the chairman of Philips' supervisory board, admitted that the disas-



Van der Klugt: resigned

ter first-quarter result came as a surprise even to the board.

After the events, Mr Cor van der Klugt, the president of Philips, and Mr Gert Lorenz, head of the computer division, were forced to resign. Mr Jan Timmer, head of the consumer electronics division at Philips, has been appointed to succeed Mr van der Klugt.

Philips, which is registered in the US with SEC, recently filed three reports, two so-called Form 6K interim reports in March and one main end-of-year 20F report in April. The investors' complaint probably relates to the reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in March or April.

The legal action against Philips further increases the pressure on the virtually bid-proof company to shed jobs and some businesses, like its ailing computer division, and the investment-intensive information systems and semiconductors businesses.

Mr Chris Honnor, a securities analyst at Kleinwort Benson Securities, the broker, said that the break-up value of the company could be about £18 billion, which compares with a current market valuation of about £3 billion.

"If you brought in some of the American whizzkids, you can break up the company in five minutes," he said.

Philips shares fell by Fl 0.90 to Fl 32.10.

and in many cases successful. Actions of such a nature are based on the Securities Exchange Act 1934. The information, by which investors have been allegedly misled, relates to documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the US securities watchdog.

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L&G raises estate agency chain to 300

By Matthew Bond

LEGAL & General, the insurance group, has increased the size of its estate agency chain to 300 by buying two more London estate agents.

Unlike most of its rivals, Legal & General has bought nearly all its estate agencies in the last six months — since the residential market went into recession. The company's biggest acquisition occurred in

December, when it paid £19 million for the 103-strong Whitegates chain in the north of England.

Yesterday's acquisitions operate in the region hardest hit by the slump in sales — London. Legal & General is paying a total of £7 million to buy the north London agent Adam Kennedy — with £5 million being paid in cash and

Tern loss-making businesses sold

TERN'S three-year venture into the world of residential estate agency has cost the construction and property group about £14 million in losses (Matthew Bond writes).

But the losses are to stop. The company has halted the outflow by selling its remaining 50 per cent stake in its estate agency chain to Equity & Law for £2.8 million.

Tern sold the first 50 per cent to Equity & Law last August for £5 million, with the insurance group subscribing for a further £1.5 million of shares in Tern, giving it a 10 per cent stake in the company.

Mr Peter Hickson, who arrived as managing director last September, accepts that the company bought its estate agencies at the top of the market and has now sold them at the bottom. Over a two-year period Tern paid about £19 million

million for the four chains it acquired — Nationwide, Badgers, Windsor Fareham and Townends. After the disposal of 34 agencies a £9.1 million extraordinary loss is being taken, reducing shareholders funds to about £2.5 million. For the fourth year running no dividend is being paid.

Mr Hickson said he had no alternative but to sell the estate agencies. "I saw no way of turning the estate agents back into profit in the short term."

"I'd rather have a low net worth and be profit making, than have high shareholders funds and be loss-making."

Tern made pre-tax losses of £4.98 million in the year to December, with estate agency accounting for £3.04 million of that. Tern plans to concentrate on its profit-making contracting business.

WHO IS

**ALL
THIS**

In short, we are. Wiggins Teape Appleton is a leading manufacturer of speciality business papers and supplied over 1 million tonnes of paper in 1989.

For example, we're the world's number one in the manufacture and sale of carbonless papers with the broadest range of products used to make multipart business forms, such as receipts, invoices and statements.

We are a leading manufacturer of thermal papers with over 30% of the US market and some 15% in Europe. Sales of thermal paper, used in fax machines and bar code label printing, have seen high growth thanks to the speed and convenience of both these processes.

In Europe we're one of the largest manufacturers of fine watermarked business stationery.

BTR back with sealing firm buy

From John Durie, New York

BTR has agreed to buy Global Automotive Sealing Systems Group from United Technologies Corporation for \$200 million.

The purchase marks BTR's return to the takeover scene after the public relations debacle of its hostile bid for Norton Company, the Massachusetts abrasives producer, eventually bought last month by the French Compagnie de Saint Gobain for \$1.9 billion.

The ASS Group purchase was made by a BTR subsidiary, Schlegel Corp, acquired last year for \$190 million. Both companies produce rubber seals for cars, with ASS Group concentrating on windscreen seals. Last year, ASS made a profit of \$20 million

after sales of \$275 million, and Schlegel had sales of \$300 million. United Technologies, owner of Pratt & Whitney, the aerospace company, sold ASS to concentrate on core car products, insulation, interior trims and steering wheels.

Mindful of the bid for Norton, during which the target company generated a political campaign against BTR attacking its alleged practice of sacking staff after US takeovers, Mr John Cahill, BTR's chief executive, said that the acquisition was "another example of BTR using its financial resources and management expertise to enhance its subsidiaries' long-term stability, growth and financial help."

In that period, when insurance companies were paying more than £250,000 a branch, L&G compromised by entering into tied agency agreements with a number of estate agents. Now that prices have fallen, L&G is buying some of those tied agents.

Kennedy is to be merged with another of L&G's former tied agents, Land & Co, to form a 49-strong chain of London agents. L&G has recently acquired the balance of the equity in the east London-based Land & Co.

L&G's acquisitions this year include Ellis & Co, in London. L&G also owns 15 per cent of Connells.

Mr Harris is cautiously optimistic about the long-term outlook for the housing market. "Owning your own house is still a fundamental tenet in most people's lives," he said.

Pro-forma earnings per share, adjusted for the flotation, were 13.8p, 0.3p better than forecast. The interim dividend is 1.4p.

Goldsmiths shares slide

SHARES in Goldsmiths Group, the upmarket jeweller and watch retailer chaired by Mr Jurek Piascik, slid 20p to 116p after it revealed that its gearing had reached 96 per cent by year-end.

However, results for the year to March 3 were broadly in line with the company's forecast when it returned to the stock market in January. Pre-tax profits rose 79 per cent to £4.06 million, compared with the £4.02 million forecast, and sales increased by 28 per cent to £39.6 million.

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Piascik: forecasts met

Progress report on Sock Shop rescue due

By Martin Waller

SHAREHOLDERS in Sock Shop International, Miss Sophie Mirman's battered niche retailer, will learn today what progress has been made by the administrators put in to salvage the company in February.

Miss Mirman said last night she was still optimistic that the group would be rescued.

The administrators, Mr Peter DuBuisson and Mr Philip Sykes of BDO Binder Hamlyn, have been putting together a rescue plan involving the injection of cash by an unnamed third party, thought to be a private company, in return for a hefty chunk of Sock Shop. The company is 80 per cent owned by Miss Mirman and Mr Richard Ross, her husband.

The shares have been suspended at 34p for the past three months, and shareholders will be looking for reassurance that their investments are not worthless.

Last week, the administrators went to the Companies Court to get a three-month extension for their rescue plans, originally due to be announced by yesterday.

But analysts were last night dubious about the chain's chances of survival, even under new ownership.

Sock Shop's downfall came when it became locked into high rents for its new outlets at the top of the property market. These could not be met from profits from those stores once the retail market collapsed.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Shares in Soviet truck plant to be sold off

THE huge Kamaz complex, which produces most Soviet heavy trucks, is planning to sell shares to customers, private citizens and foreign firms to raise capital to revitalise its assembly line and compete worldwide. Mr Nikolai Bekh, the plant director, revealed in *Pravda* that 49 per cent of Kamaz shares would be sold.

Under the programme, 13 Kamaz factories would receive an estimated 6 billion roubles (almost £6 billion) of investment by the year 2000. The plan goes further than previous Soviet share offerings, and places full control in the hands of the shareholders. The Kamaz enterprise consists of 18 plants and 200 service centres. It has built more than 1 million trucks since 1976.

McLeod up at halfway

MCLEOD Russel, the surface coatings, textiles and property group, lifted interim profits for the six months ended March 31 to £4.6 million from £4.26 million. Earnings per share rose 21 per cent to 7.05p and the interim dividend is 2.75p (2.5p). Plans for the possible buying-in of the company's own shares are to be put to an extraordinary general meeting.

Proteus to join USM

PROTEUS International, a Cheshire-based company involved in the development of computer-aided molecular design for use in the pharmaceutical industry, is joining the USM through a £4.19 million placing.

Allied Provincial Securities is placing 5.37 million shares — 25 per cent of Proteus's enlarged share capital — at 84p each, capitalising the company at £18.05 million. The financial projection for the year to end-March 1991 shows sales of £51.13 million, research and administrative costs not exceeding £2.4 million, and interest income of £300,000.

Based on this, the company would have a p/e of nine.

LEP to open Prague office

LEP Group, the transport and distribution group, is returning to Czechoslovakia after 50 years by establishing an office in Prague, to open in July and offer a full range of services, including air and sea transport. LEP earlier announced the opening of an office in East Germany. Before the Second World War, LEP owned a company in Czechoslovakia operating in Prague and Brno.

Wharfedale cuts loss

WHARFEDALE, the loudspeaker maker, which took control of Audio Fidelity, the troubled consumer electronics group, cut pre-tax losses from £2.34 million to £319,000 in the half-year to December, the period before the merger. Sales have since risen by 75 per cent, and the business is now profitable.

Turnover rose 46 per cent to £8.67 million, earnings per share were 0.7p, thanks to a tax credit of £423,000, against a 29.1p loss per share. There is again no interim dividend, and a full-year payment is unlikely. An extraordinary loss of £496,000 relates to disposals.

Expansion at Argos continues

By Melinda Wittstock

ARGOS, the catalogue showroom retailer demerged from BAT Industries last month in a £600 million flotation, reported an 8.4 per cent rise in trading profits to £4.9 million for the first quarter of the year.

Sales during the period, in which Argos opened five more stores, were up 16.3 per cent to £150 million, with an underlying sales growth of 9.1 per cent.

Argos, now one of Britain's six biggest retail groups with 256 stores, plans to open between 25 and 30 stores this year. Mr Bob Stewart, finance director, said company research indicated that 344 more cities and towns have populations large and affluent enough to support new Argos stores.

The group is also looking at opportunities for expanding catalogue retailing on the Continent.

The shares rose 1p to 205p.

Turriff to face AGM writ row

By Nell Bennett

TURRIFF Corporation, the construction and plant hire group, faces an embarrassing row at its annual meeting today when shareholders press for details of a £1.75 million writ served by two former employees.

Mr Michael Quinn and Mr Jim Quinn are suing Turriff over its acquisition in 1988 of Essexcare, a West Midlands trench-digging equipment supplier they owned.

The case is not mentioned in Turriff's annual accounts.

The Quinn brothers are claiming the money is due from a two-year earn-out agreement, based on profits. They suggest Essexcare failed to meet profit targets due to Turriff's mismanagement.

Turriff paid an initial £500,000 for Essexcare, which made only marginal profits in 1988, and last year slumped to a £400,000 loss.

The Guinness Trial

Saunders held on 'DTI evidence'

By A Correspondent

POLICE investigating the Guinness scandal arrested Ernest Saunders, the former chief executive, without any independent evidence, a court heard.

Detective Chief Superintendent Richard Botwright, the officer in charge of the case, said Mr Saunders was arrested on May 6, 1987, more than a year after Guinness won the battle for Distillers.

Mr Botwright told Southwark Crown Court Mr Saunders was arrested for allegedly attempting to pervert the course of justice and alleged offences under the Companies Act. He was arrested at his solicitors' offices in Lincoln's Inn after his seventh interview with Department of Trade inspectors investigating the bid.

Cross-examined by Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, defending Mr Saunders, Mr Botwright said Mr Saunders was followed from the DTI to his lawyers' offices. He said police acted on information but denied there was any communication with the inspectors.

Mr Botwright, the 50th and final witness to give evidence

before the jury, said the police had received transcripts of the interviews. He added that before arresting Mr Saunders, the DTI statements and sworn affidavits to be used for civil proceedings were the only evidence the police held.

Mr Ferguson asked: "The police had not themselves obtained any evidence other than the statements and the affidavits prior to the arrest of Saunders?" Mr Botwright said: "That's obviously right."

Mr Ferguson asked: "Am I right in saying if the police sought to interview Mr Saunders he would be perfectly entitled to say he refused to answer questions?" The officer replied: "That's right." But he agreed that when questioned by the DTI, Mr Saunders had to answer their queries.

Mr Botwright confirmed all the four defendants, Mr Saunders, aged 54, Gerald Ronson, aged 50, Anthony Parncutt, aged 44, and Sir Jack Lyons, aged 74, were of previous good character. They variously deny 24 charges including theft, false accounting and Companies Act breaches. The trial continues.

**WIGGINS
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MAKING PAPER WORK

We have long established and internationally known brands such as Conqueror, now available in 70 countries worldwide. Other brands include NCR Paper* and Idem carbonless paper brands, and Optima thermal paper. All essential to today's business technology.

And through our own commitment to technological leadership, we are constantly working to improve the quality of our products and efficiency of our processes to meet the high standards our customers expect.

As the largest UK-owned paper group, Wiggins Teape Appleton aims to maintain and build on its leading position in the speciality branded business papers industry.

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Euro rail link decision on a slow track to Number Ten

No new chairman of a company, let alone the chairman of a nationalized industry responsible to the public purse, would be so silly as to make a far reaching and possibly controversial decision without examining all the options. So it is no surprise that Bob Reid, easing himself into the chairman's office at British Rail, has reopened the file on the proposed rail link between the Channel tunnel and the capital. He would be foolish indeed if he merely accepted the conventional wisdom that the European Rail Link consortium was the only viable option, and that the other possibilities be rejected.

While Reid's thoroughness and caution is to be welcomed, it should be remembered that a political decision on the link is already overdue, and Reid is unwittingly allowing the politicians more time to fudge and fumble by inviting the other contestants in this curious beauty

contest to freshen up their faces and take to the catwalk yet again. However attractive some aspects of the alternative schemes may appear (for instance, in the Ove Arup link via Stratford, South London is left undisturbed as the trains will thunder towards London across the Essex marshes), they are far more expensive than the European Rail Link proposals. At the very least, they would cost a billion and a half more than the European Rail Link route, and since the real argument within the Treasury, the Department of Transport and British Rail is about how the line will be financed, the extra cost alone would put them out of the running unless there were overwhelming non-financial considerations.

It is thought that the decision has moved from both the Treasury and the DoT, and into the parlour of Number Ten. It so happens that the Prime Minister

is taking a keen personal interest in another European matter, the siting of the proposed theme park to rival EuroDisneyland. Paris wants it and has put up a package of incentives to the promoters, including access to the high-speed rail system. London also wants to play host, and has been accommodating on the planning front. The Ove Arup line steams across the Rainham marshes, site of the park if it comes to Britain. A connection between the two matters? Possibly.

Meanwhile, Eurotunnel is approaching the next phase in its financing and would like the matter to be settled. It is hardly comforting for the Japanese bankers being courted this month by the Eurotunnel roadshow that

there is still so much indecision. That situation was made worse, rather than better, yesterday when Cecil Parkinson, speaking at a conference organized by the *Financial Times*, said that "arrangements to service the tunnel never envisaged a fast link." Really?

No pounding

The pound continued to defy gravity yesterday — the gravity of the economic situation — rising another 0.5 on the effective rate index to 88.7. Money market rates, which last week were held above base rate, were allowed to drift down in

response to sterling to below 15 per cent, with the bellwether three-month interbank rate closing at 14 1/8 per cent bid. One-year money is now 14 1/4 per cent, indicating a belief that rates are bound to be lower a year hence than they are now.

The movement of the last few days shows that fantasies can be just as strong as facts. Nothing of substance has changed in the Government's position on membership of the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System from this time last week. The Government is committed to joining as it has been since last July. The conditions for joining are still the same.

What has changed is markets' perception. The combination of an interview with the Chancellor, John Major, in the *Wall Street Journal* and Mr Major's speech to the Confederation of British Industry has begun to convince investors that the Prime

Ministerial veto has been lifted. The result is a strong rise in sterling and an associated dip in interest rates. No longer need ERM fanciers rest on theory in their claim that joining would sustain sterling at a lower level of interest rates. The evidence is there for all to see.

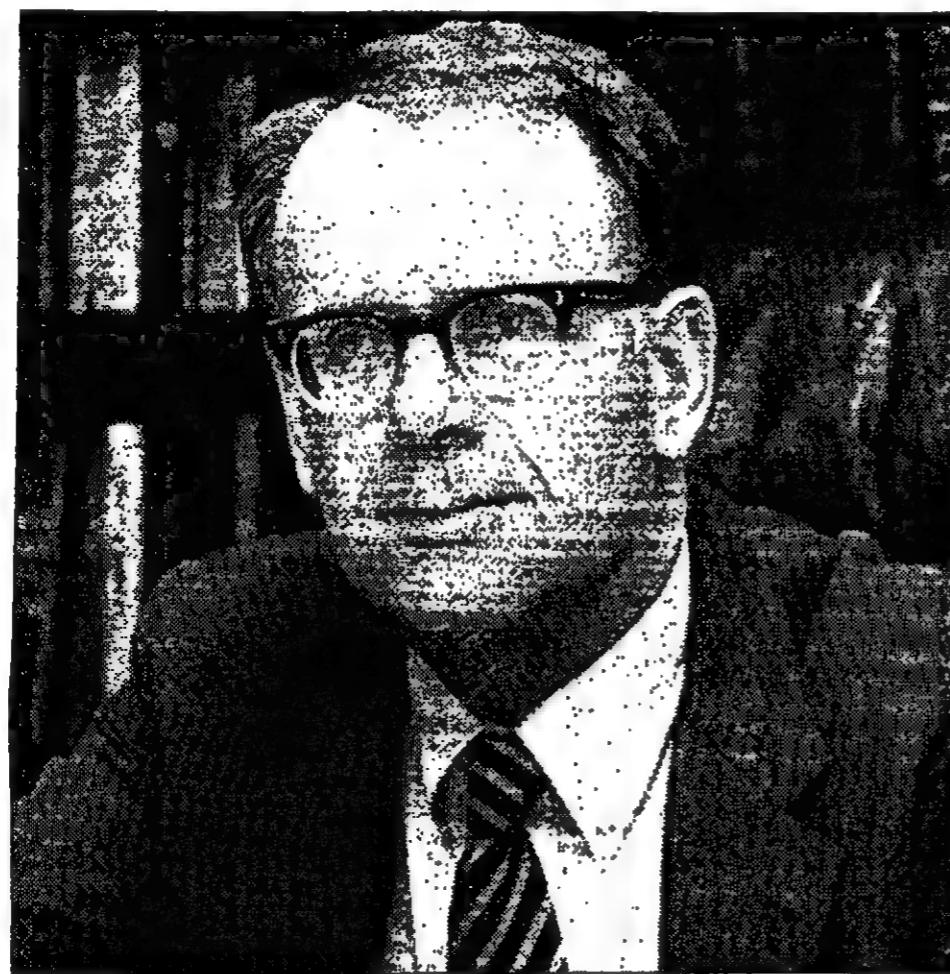
This working experiment is in itself likely to reinforce the probability that Britain will join. Labour's trump card in presenting itself as more committed to dealing with inflation than the Government is its determination to join the ERM. By joining at an electorally judicious moment the Government could both steal some of Labour's clothes and help bring down interest rates without re-stoking inflation.

None of this means ERM membership is a painless panacea. But at least nobody now needs to speculate about the possible short-term effect of ERM membership. We have seen the future and it works.

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Lavish generosity of Guerin, the church chorister



James Guerin: Lancaster city regarded him as one of its favourite sons

Ferranti International Defence Systems was taken by Mr Alan Greenberg from Ferranti's Cardion company in New York, another former ISC subsidiary.

According to one of the ISC employees in Lancaster, no contracts have been awarded to the plant this year.

"It's very quiet, and it has been since the first of this year," he said. "We are still finishing our old contracts and they are hoping they'll get some new ones, but nothing has come in. We're in a state of limbo."

The company has been fighting for US government contracts and the ISC affair could not have come at a worse time.

"Bruce Magill was trying to convince the government that

Ferranti International Defence Systems was not involved in the boop-la that was going on and that we should be awarded contracts, but I'm not so sure he succeeded, and maybe breaking out means fewer contracts all round," said the ISC employee.

"I keep thinking that one day I'll pick up the paper and read the headlines saying that this is it, they're closing the plant, and sometimes I expect them to say that we've won a big contract and we've saved."

Lancaster County is typical American farming country — fewer than 400,000 people, almost 600,000 cattle, pigs and sheep, and more than 10 million chickens.

Lancaster city is small-town America, with two trains a day to neighbouring Philadelphia.

Most of the people he helped did not realize the cash came from the weapons man-

ufacturer. He appointed Mrs Wanda Rupp, a Sunday school teacher, to act as his agent and she wore out four cars driving round the county, handing out \$200,000 a year to worthy causes, mainly people who were not helped by government programmes.

She helped thousands of people pay their medical bills, clothe their children, and pay their rents.

A doctor in Washington was given \$100,000 a year to supply local medical help for the poor.

Mr Guerin paid the salaries of the Rev Barry Stahl and nine assistants so that they could travel around the county visiting lonely old folks at nursing homes, boarding homes and hospitals. The cost: \$250,000 a year.

Mr Guerin personally gave the treasures of his local church to the Church of God in Lansdowne, where he sang in the choir — cheques for up to \$75,000 a year to spend on church youth and overseas missions. "It was always anonymous, sometimes people guessed, but I was the only one who knew," said Mrs Beulah Dougherty.

His Parent Foundation handed out millions of dollars in the form of five-year grants: a housing project for the homeless received \$20,000, a day care center was given \$25,000 and the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra received an annual \$15,000.

The father of five also gave \$15,000 a year to the Planned Parenthood Organisation, and handed out \$1.4 million to orphans in the Philippines between 1983 and 1989.

Usually he went to great lengths to conceal the source of the funds. Mrs Rupp said: "I said I represented a group of Christian business people who chose to use some of their money for people in the community. Actually it was just Mr Guerin. There were no others."

He has left Lancaster, but he is by no means in hiding. He answers the telephone at his home in Naples, Florida, and politely refuses to comment on the ISC affair and its repercussions. "My lawyer has advised me not to comment and I am following his advice, sir," he says.

It is a statement he makes many times, repeating it parrot-fashion no matter what question he is asked. Ferranti shareholders who want to try it for themselves can call him on (813) 6494174.

Stephen Leather
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Vanities singed

ANYONE who has read *Bonfire of the Vanities* would have appreciated the mild unease that set in when, after a night at the New York Yankees baseball stadium, a coachload of City analysts on a tour of North America, hosted by cable and construction group BICC, broke down in the Bronx. Recalling what had happened to Sherman McCoy, Master of the Universe, when he lost his way in the Bronx — not one of New York's safest areas — the analysts were relieved when a mechanic turned up and helped them on their way. That perhaps explains why, most of the time, BICC used two jets to fly the analysts around — a 10-seater luxury Gulfstream complete with a stewardess, and a much smaller six-seater. Public relations man Tim Sharp insisted that the analysts take turns at the white-knuckle ride in the small jet, with the exception of Rory Sweetman of BZW who declared "ear problems" and refused to do his stint. Meanwhile 6ft 3in Scot Sandy Morris, of County NatWest WoodMac, is unlikely to live down the fact

that on all name badges and written material he was referred to as "Miss Sandy Morris." "If I'd known," he growled, "I would have packed a dress." Also constantly misspelled, but apparently far less embarrassed about it, was David Berke, of Cazenovia, which was usually reprinted as "Cazanova."

Gold forever

CITY traditions die hard, even when a Hanson takeover gets in the way. Yesterday saw the 24th publication of the annual, authoritative survey on gold, *Gold 1990*, which used to come from the stable of Consolidated Gold Fields, and whose demise was threatened once the Hanson takeover, in 1989, was complete. It has now made its appearance under the guise of its new owner, Gold Fields Mineral Services. A joint venture set up last November by three associates of CossGold — Gold Fields of South Africa, Newmont Mining and Reisen Goldfields Corporation — to ensure that the statistical bible of the gold world lives on. *GFMS*' chief executive Stewart Murray reveals that the print run will be 14,000 and that the survey will be translated into Portuguese, Spanish and Japanese.

Action man

LACKLUSTRE trading volumes in the Square Mile have been driving frustrated brokers into the streets — and some have even been taking to the air. Taking the London marathon in his stride, James Capel's leisure salesman Patrick Houston is now preparing for his next challenge — the Berlin Marathon. Houston — who is also a dab hand at paragliding — is frequently spotted running from the City to his home in Notting Hill Gate, of an evening, wearing — what else — a James Capel T-shirt. And the craze seems to be spreading. For, on the Berlin run in September, he will be accompanied by fellow leisure team-mates Max Dolding and Tim Bates, and the firm's agency man Matthew Capp, Houston, still recovering from a grueling 126-mile canoe race he recently tackled with Alex Smith, of Banque Indosuez, clearly sees such adventures as means for his firm to cut costs, given those low values. "Lunches are getting so expensive we're thinking of having client runs," he quips. Fand managers be warned.

Carol Leonard

TEMPUS

Payout boost props Carlton

WELL may Mr Michael Green, the chairman and chief executive at Carlton Communications, move to put some much-needed support under the share price, virtually halved at one stage this spring against a price of 850p in December.

The past few months have been miserable for Carlton, with legal squabbles over patents, now resolved in its favour, speculation that it might take a stake in RSR, disappointment over the £163 million the Cosworth car engines business fetched and what was viewed in the City as a veiled profits warning.

Mr Guerin personally gave the treasures of his local church to the Church of God in Lansdowne, where he sang in the choir — cheques for up to \$75,000 a year to spend on church youth and overseas missions. "It was always anonymous, sometimes people guessed, but I was the only one who knew," said Mrs Beulah Dougherty.

His Parent Foundation handed out millions of dollars in the form of five-year grants: a housing project for the homeless received \$20,000, a day care center was given \$25,000 and the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra received an annual \$15,000.

The father of five also gave \$15,000 a year to the Planned Parenthood Organisation, and handed out \$1.4 million to orphans in the Philippines between 1983 and 1989.

Usually he went to great lengths to conceal the source of the funds. Mrs Rupp said: "I said I represented a group of Christian business people who chose to use some of their money for people in the community. Actually it was just Mr Guerin. There were no others."

He has left Lancaster, but he is by no means in hiding. He answers the telephone at his home in Naples, Florida, and politely refuses to comment on the ISC affair and its repercussions. "My lawyer has advised me not to comment and I am following his advice, sir," he says.

It is a statement he makes many times, repeating it parrot-fashion no matter what question he is asked. Ferranti shareholders who want to try it for themselves can call him on (813) 6494174.

Stephen Leather
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

CARLTON COMMUNICATIONS



million to £305 million, but the prospective p/e of 8.7 still makes the shares a worthwhile defensive hold.

Amber Day

IT IS almost two years since Mr Philip Green, a former owner of the Jean Jeanie retail chain, arrived with him the Review chain of menswear shops and subsequently acquired Woodhouse, a retailer of designer garments. But from the outside, Mr Green said he wanted to spend up to £50 million on another shop chain.

Healthy cash and investment balances of £1.2 billion, up from £1.1 billion, generated a gross £131.5 million, against £92.2 million in the year ended March, with the benefit of a £16 million to £17 million contribution from UEL, including Cosworth.

Carlton has broken with all tradition and provided a divisional profits breakdown, revealing that while margins for television and film services rose by perhaps 3 per cent, for television, video and sound products they fell by 5 per cent, partly because lack of video duplication capacity meant that about £20 million of work had to be subcontracted.

The shares dropped 30p to 510p on the figures as bullish traders who had pushed them ahead in past weeks took their profit. The indicated dividend for the year (14.059p) puts Carlton on a prospective yield of about 3.7 per cent.

The UEL acquisition will cut earnings growth this year. Assuming pre-tax profits in the £160 million area, the shares are changing hands on a respectable multiple of slightly more than 9. The collapse in the price should be over, but given the cautious outlook the shares look fairly valued for now.

Wage pressures in Britain are not likely to be easily passed on to the price of basic foods, so margin pressure is here for a while yet. However, ABF is more than likely to see pre-tax profits rise again.

Of greater stock market interest is whether ABF will bid for Berisford, in which it holds a 23 per cent stake, and what are its intentions towards Unigate, where a 2 per cent stake is held.

Meanwhile, the cash/investment holdings equate to about £6.1 million before tax and earnings of 4.1p, the shares would be on a prospective p/e ratio of 11 at the ex-rights price of 47p. In the current climate, it will require strong nerves to buy them.

AB Foods

ASSOCIATED British Foods

complains about tough margin pressure, but it will not be

moaning about high interest rates.

Healthy cash and investment balances of £1.2 billion, up from £1.1 billion, generated a gross £131.5 million, against £92.2 million in the year ended March, with the benefit of a £16 million to £17 million contribution from UEL, including Cosworth.

The second interim dividend of 7.7p (6.5p), payable September 3, makes 11p (9.3p) for the year.

Turnover rose by 11.1 per cent to £2.77 billion, but trading profit rose by only 4.9 per cent to £159.3 million. British manufacturing operations were hard pressed, and Northern Ireland retail activities faced intense second-half competition. It was left to the strength of overseas operations to save the day, and that looks like being the case again.

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JOHNSTON GROUP PLC

● Turnover in 1989 rose by 8%.

● Dividend increased by 13%.

"Generally the outlook for the Group is good and the directors are confident that the efforts to improve the management and performance of subsidiary companies will result in a fitter Group well placed to take advantage of the considerable opportunities available in the 1990's."

Graham Johnston
Chairman

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	1989 £000	1988 £000
Turnover	107,086	99,136
Profit before tax	7,322	8,072
Dividend per ordinary share	13.0p	11.5p
Net asset value per ordinary share	408.59p</td	

STOCK MARKET

Rolls-Royce accelerates on hopes of American support

SHARES in Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine group, scaled new heights with a rise of 9p to 214p, after 222p, as the view gained ground that an American Depository Receipt facility will attract valuable support for the shares from investors in the US.

Dealers say final approval will be announced soon and may coincide with a visit by stockbrokers to the US, designed to highlight the progress it has made in this market.

Last month, heavy turnover was reported in Rolls-Royce shares, with one investor reckoned to have built up a 3 per cent stake via the inter-dealer broker trading system. The identity of the buyer may be revealed within the next few weeks when the statutory disclosure level for stake-building in companies is reduced from 5 per cent to 3 per cent.

The rest of the equity market took the latest money supply figures for April, showing the growth in bank and building society lending falling to a three-year low, in its stride. Conditions were more subdued in the wake of last week's 95-point rise, with investors apparently happy to stand back before tomorrow's trade figures. The FT-SE 100 index spent most of the day fluctuating in narrow limits, mirroring movements on the futures market, where the index continued to trade at a small premium.

The FT-SE eventually closed at its best levels of the day, 13 points up at 2,282.1, as one leading market-maker

chose to mark prices higher. The FT index of 30 shares rose 17.5 to 1,810.8, with turnover restricted to 316 million shares.

Still cheered by the prospect of the pound's entry into the European Exchange Rate Mechanism, government securities boasted gains of more than 5½ at the longer end.

Selective support ahead of figures this week boosted British Airways, 3p to 213p, Bass, 10p to £10.19, and Rank Hovis McDougall, 3p to 392p. But a profits downgrading by CL-Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank left Taylor Woodrow 8p lower at 275p.

Associated British Foods

firmly 2p to 390p after reporting a 20 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £244 million and

a rise in earnings per share of almost 6p to 42p.

The group, which is sitting on almost £1 billion in cash, is recommending a second interim dividend of 7.7p, making 10.27p (8.67p).

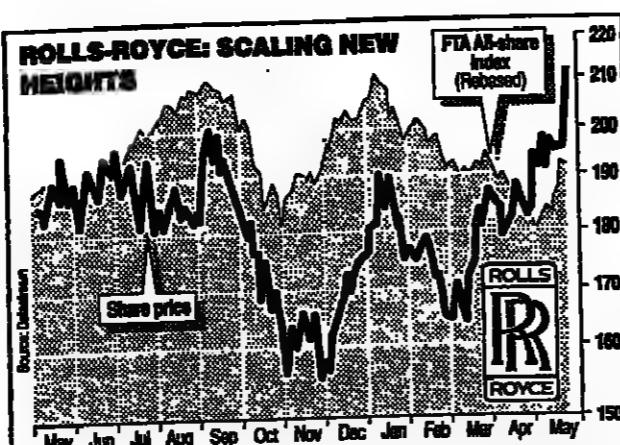
Mr Garry Weston, the chairman, says pressure on margins in a static home market has made profits growth difficult in food manufacturing.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Daily change (\$)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (£)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (\$)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (£)	Yearly change (£)
	Value	(\$)	(£)	(%)	Value	(\$)	(£)	(\$)
The World (free)	725.2	-0.6	-13.9	-0.2	-8.3	-0.6	-9.7	
EAFE (free)	138.6	-0.6	-14.1	-0.2	-8.4	-0.6	-9.8	
Europe (free)	1270.4	-1.0	-18.2	-0.8	-12.4	-0.9	-14.2	
North America (free)	130.7	-1.0	-18.5	-0.7	-12.7	-0.9	-14.5	
Nordic (free)	158.4	-0.8	-2.9	-0.4	-2.1	-0.7	1.8	
Pacific	155.7	-0.8	-2.9	-0.7	-2.4	-0.7	1.5	
Far East	243.9	-0.4	-5.7	0.0	5.8	-0.4	8.8	
Australia	290.1	-1.1	-26.8	-0.7	-18.5	-1.1	-23.2	
Austria	421.2	-1.1	-27.2	-0.7	-18.8	-1.1	-23.6	
Belgium	285.3	-0.8	-17.9	-1.1	-10.9	-0.7	-13.8	
Canada	1725.6	-3.9	-16.1	-3.4	-19.4	-3.8	-21.8	
Denmark	507.2	0.5	-15.5	0.7	-9.7	0.5	-11.4	
Finland (free)	1312.3	-0.5	-2.3	0.0	-12.4	-0.1	-9.5	
France	1432.4	-1.3	-3.9	-0.9	-2.4	-1.2	0.8	
Hong Kong	2207.9	-0.1	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	
Italy	820.9	-1.1	-2.8	-0.6	-2.2	-2.3	-2.7	
Japan	394.2	0.8	-2.3	1.2	-3.3	0.8	-7.3	
Netherlands	4488.3	-1.2	-26.1	-0.8	-18.5	-1.1	-24.5	
New Zealand	869.1	-1.0	-3.1	-0.4	-5.8	-0.9	-3.6	
Norway	1572.4	-0.8	-17.1	-0.1	-8.9	-1.0	-13.1	
Portugal	273.9	-0.8	-17.3	-0.1	-19.5	-0.5	-23.0	
Sing/Malay	1974.4	0.9	-1.0	1.0	-1.3	1.0	3.8	
Spain	220.7	-0.5	-6.8	-0.1	-7.7	-0.5	-2.2	
Sweden	1716.4	-0.1	-2.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	2.6	
Switzerland (free)	247.1	-0.3	-2.1	0.2	-4.8	-0.2	7.1	
UK	140.1	-0.9	-0.9	-0.1	-2.8	-1.0	5.8	
USA	573.7	0.2	-6.8	0.2	-6.5	0.2	-2.0	
	462.5	-0.1	-4.3	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.4	

*For local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.



Monopolies and Mergers Commission has completed its inquiry into the contested £568 million bid from Kingfisher three weeks ago and a final decision on the report is awaited from the Trade Secretary.

Kingfisher's last offer was valued at 120p a share, but since then the outlook for Dixons has taken a turn for the better, with the group reporting improved trading conditions in recent months.

Now that the Dixons share price stands above the offer, the speculators are claiming

Kingfisher will have to offer almost 150p a share. But Kingfisher's Mr Geoff Mulcahy has expressed reluctance to pay that sort of money. Kingfisher rose 5p to 306p.

Elsewhere in the high street, Ringers, the jewellery chain headed by Mr Gerald Ratner, rose a further 10p to 254p. Last week, it gave a presentation to analysts and seems to have made a favourable impression, reporting an increase in sales of more than 20 per cent on the corresponding period. There have also been mutterings about a possible analysts' visit to the US to have a look at the group's US operations. The Ringer share price has been under something of a cloud since it was leaked that the group was hoping to put together an agreed bid for Dixons. The market fears that Ringers may still be on the lookout for sizeable acquisitions.

Michael Clark

The interim statement from Carlton Communications was poorly received, with the share price tumbling 25p to 515p. Pre-tax profits were up almost 20 per cent at £65 million, but the cautious meeting after figures were announced left analysts worried about the group's future earnings growth potential. Kleinwort Benson, the broker, has downgraded its pre-tax profits forecast for the full year from £165 million to £158 million.

There has been persistent speculation that Carlton would like to bid for Thames Television. This, combined with worries about a slowdown in earnings growth, has seen the share price fall from a peak of 870p, achieved this year.

The news that Thorn EMI had decided to bring forward its figures by a few weeks to May 31 excited the speculators, who chased the share price 14p higher to 722p on hopes of some good news from the company when it reports. Analysis had been forecasting

Fading bid hope left Dixons, the high street electrical retailer, 5p lower at 125p. The

dealers are eagerly awaiting some positive news on that front. The music business has been firing on all cylinders and the only black spot is Rumbelows, which weighed in with interim losses of almost £15 million at the half-way stage. There is still talk about a management buyout.

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Richard Hornby
CHAIRMAN

With 16% of all mortgage business in the UK, Halifax Building Society can draw on more experience than any other lender in the housing market. In spite of difficult market conditions in 1989, we turned that experience to producing a set of excellent results.

Our assets went up 18.6% to £47.9 billion, our gross profit also improved by 16% to £534 million. Most tellingly, net mortgage advances increased to £6.2 billion.

But financial results are not the only way we judge our performance.

The satisfaction of our customers is of most importance to us and so in 1989 we again improved and extended the services we offer.

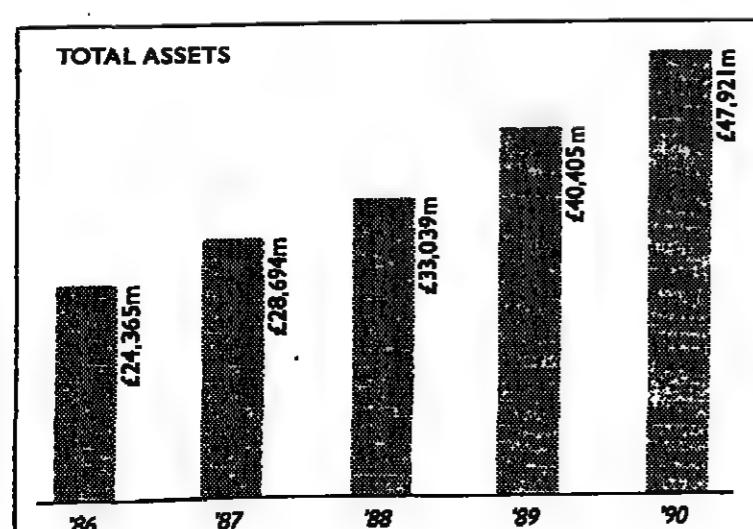
Our primary business is in housing and savings and the market last year was one of the toughest for years – for customers and building societies alike.

Investment and Savings

1989 saw further innovations in our portfolio of investment products.

We introduced a new premium rate product – Capital Xtra – and a regular income account – Monthly Income Xtra.

The market's response to this enhanced product range was particularly encouraging with over £23 billion flowing into our branches.



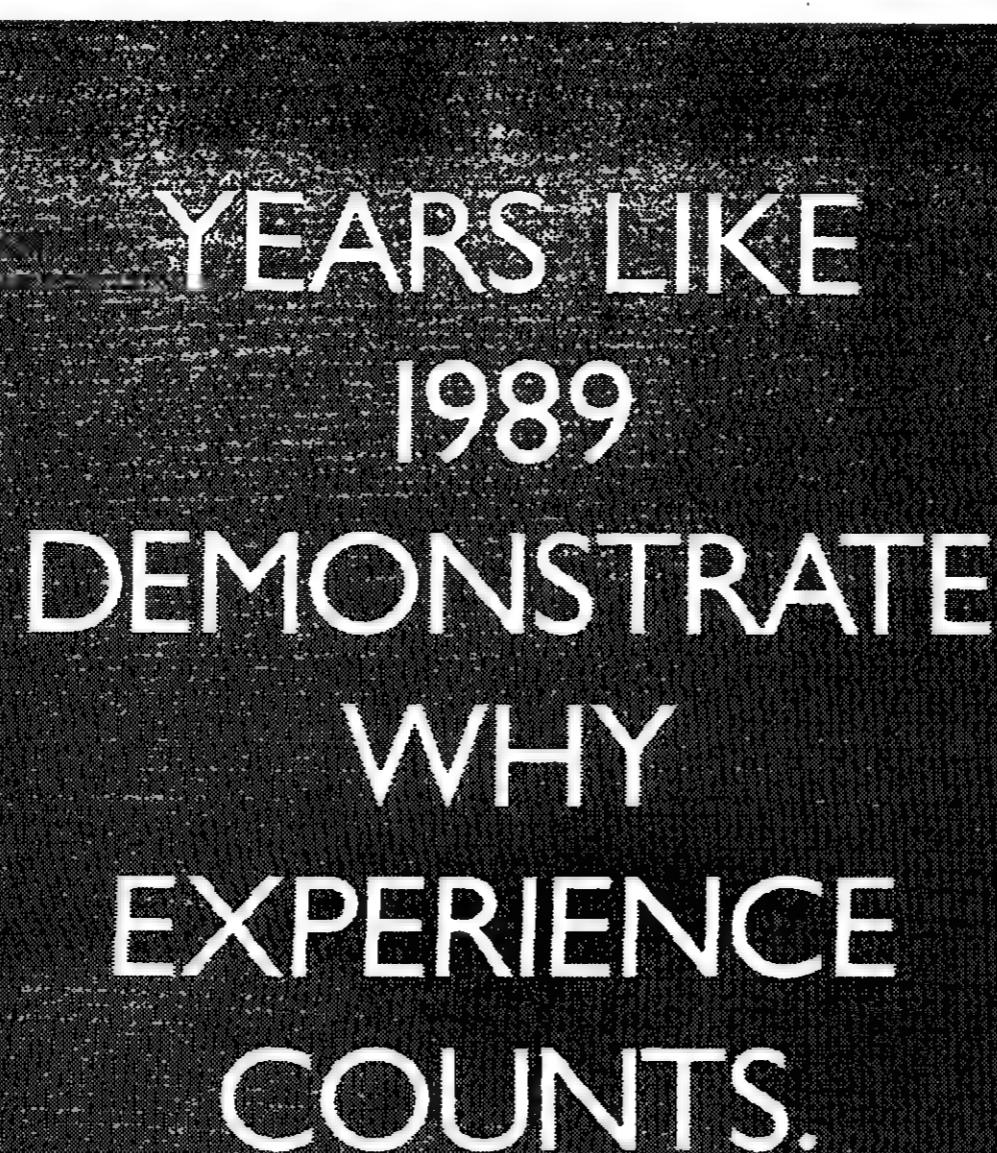
THE CONTENT OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS BASED UPON THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN, RICHARD HORNBY, AT THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 21ST MAY 1990.
HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY, TRINITY ROAD, HALIFAX, WEST YORKSHIRE, HX1 2RG.

Banking Services

Perhaps the most significant launch of the year however was our MAXIM current account, which in the first three months alone attracted over 100,000 customers.

With MAXIM, the Halifax can now offer a full personal banking service from cheque book to credit card, from personal loans to travellers cheques.

Later this year, Halifax will launch its



own SWITCH card facility which allows customers to pay for goods and services without having to write a cheque.

Housing

During 1989, we undertook several initiatives in the housing market.

For example, we introduced a special discount for first-time buyers so helping those seeking to make their first step onto the housing ladder.

Our range of low start schemes was also improved and widened in scope and better terms on our Apex mortgages gave a helping hand to those wanting larger loans.

All of these moves help to keep us at the

forefront of the mortgage market and we are committed to continued development of our Home Buying Service.

During the year, Halifax Property Services consolidated its position in an extremely difficult market. It will emerge leaner and fitter and well able to compete in the housing market of the future.

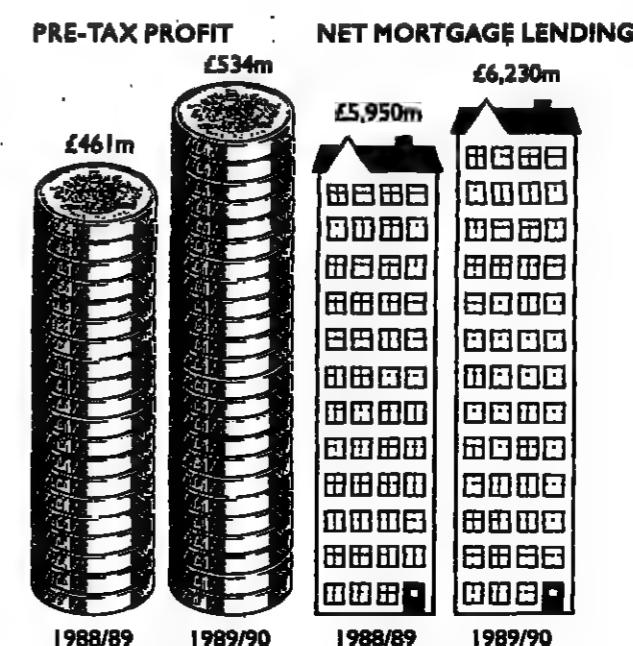
Customer Service

The major progress we have made in improving our branch facilities continues to free branch staff from routine administration allowing more time for discussing needs and offering advice to customers, tailoring financial packages to suit them.

A further major development during the year, in our quest to improve on customer services, was the extension of our Financial Services operation, offering a wide range of insurance products.

Our link with Standard Life, Britain's leading life assurance

office, will help us extend our portfolio into Unit Trusts and PEPs.



Building on Strength

These results, initiatives and innovations show experience at work helping the Society to consolidate its position as the leading mortgage lender and to pursue its aim to be the No.1 provider of personal financial services in the UK.



THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

الدعا من الاصل

Portfolio**PLATINUM**

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your daily price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and add this against the daily dividend figure. If you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated if you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gains or losses
1	Union Dist.	Banks, Discount	
2	Ranger	Oil Gas	
3	Ry Bl Soot (as)	Stamps, Discount	
4	Scoot & New (as)	Properties	
5	BICC (as)	Electricals	
6	Steyland	Property	
7	Alfred-Lyon (as)	Breweries	
8	Ungaro (as)	Foods	
9	Watt Steel	Building, Roads	
10	Semis Gp	Electricals	
11	Wolstenholme Rink	Chemicals, Plas	
12	Cobra Ext	Industrials A-D	
13	McKechnie	Industrials L-R	
14	Burnham (as)	Oil/Gas	
15	RHM (as)	Foods	
16	Marks Spencer (as)	Drapery, Stores	
17	Cossins	Property	
18	Charter Cos.	Industrials A-D	
19	Lungi (J)	Building, Roads	
20	Reed Inst (as)	Newspapers, Pub.	
21	Davies & Met 'A'	Industrials A-D	
22	Lopinge (as)	Chemicals, Plas	
23	Prestonair	Motors, Aircraft	
24	Berkshire Gp	Building, Roads	
25	Jerome (S)	Textiles	
26	Hewitt (J)	Industrials E-K	
27	Williams Hedges (as)	Industrials S-Z	
28	Polly Peck (as)	Foods	
29	South West	Water	
30	More O'Ferrall	Paper, Print, Adv.	
31	Provident	Banks, Discount	
32	Eam	Drapery, Stores	
33	Br Airways (as)	Transport	
34	Baggeridge Brick	Building, Roads	
35	Heworth	Industrials E-K	
36	Wolsey	Industrials S-Z	
37	Wilson Bowden	Building, Roads	
38	Arlan	Electricals	
39	Son TV	Leisure	
40	Surton (as)	Drapery, Stores	
41	Docon	Industrials A-D	
42	Severn Trent	Water	
43	Tesco (as)	Foods	
44	Duthill	Drapery, Stores	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total

The £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was yesterday shared by five winners. Mrs Erid Havard, of Enfield, Middlesex, Mr Gerald Cowling, Humphrey, of Sidmouth, South Devon, Mrs Kathleen Anderson, of south east London, Mr Mark Berthon, of Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, and Mrs Alison Hollis, of Comberton, Cambridge-shire, each receive £400.

BRITISH FUNDS

No.	Fund	1989 High Low Stock	Price	Gross Yield
100	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
101	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
102	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
103	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
104	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
105	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
106	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
107	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
108	Trust Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00%
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THE LAW

Edward Fennell looks at a new law course specially designed to supplement the careers of non-legal professionals

Courses intent on the finer points

Britain may have become a more litigious society, but increasing numbers of people are deciding to "take the law into their own hands".

That is the conclusion of Valerie Aggett, the principal of Holborn College in west London, following the launch last week of a series of specialist courses and diplomas in law and business.

Aimed at bankers, journalists, social workers and other professionals, the courses are believed to be the first high-level legal qualifications in Britain geared to the needs of non-lawyers.

"For some time a variety of people who have an interest in the law, but are not lawyers, have been asking us to run specialist courses in subjects relevant to their particular jobs or careers," Ms Aggett says. "We decided it was time to respond to those requests."

The diploma courses have the backing of the Oxford



Inundated: Valerie Aggett

University Delegacy of Local Examinations, leading to a diploma under the supervision of John Davies, a law don at Balliol. The pass level is reckoned to be the equivalent of a special subject within a degree.

Courses are run primarily

on a part-time basis, although

there is a full-time version

available. Distance learning is

also possible.

"There are three compulsory weekends which all students must attend but, apart from that, most students will attend just once a week on our Saturday courses," Ms Aggett says. "It seems to work better than evening classes and certainly suits those who come from outer London."

Among the 17 subjects on offer, the college expects to have most demand for the courses on contract law and company law.

"People in the business community are starting to feel that they need to have greater knowledge of the law rather than having to run off all the time for advice from expensive lawyers," Ms Aggett says.

Another big market for the diplomas is expected to come from police officers. Within two days of launching the courses, the college was inundated by inquiries from police officers who were interested in criminal law and the law of evidence.

"I would have imagined



Learning the laws of the legal jungle: students at Holborn College in west London

they would have covered the subjects in the basic training, but the indications are that they want to know a lot more," Ms Aggett says.

While the courses are aimed at the public, lawyers will not be discouraged from attending. Indeed, as a way of refreshing or updating knowledge, or picking up a new specialism, the courses could have a lot to offer.

Women solicitors turning to the law after child-raising would benefit, while the gaps in professional legal education

for lawyers – especially in fields such as European Community law – are crying out to be filled.

"We are applying to the Law Society for accreditation under the continuing professional education scheme and we are optimistic about being approved," John Fairhurst, the college's registrar, says.

What lawyers may have most to fear from the courses, however, is their popularity among rival professionals such as accountants and

surveyors. With direct professional access to the Bar now permitted, and areas such as tax open to direct competition, it could be that these diplomas will be used by those who wish to invade the solicitor's traditional territory.

As inter-professional rivalry intensifies, these courses may become a weapon in the hands of those who wish to beat lawyers at their own game.

• Details of the law diplomas are available from The Registrar, Holborn College, London W14 0GY (0171-385-3377).

INNS AND OUTS

Initiatives in bringing east European lawyers to the United Kingdom to learn the principles of English banking and commercial law could soon be replicated in the field of socio-legal studies. Polish lawyers from the Anglo-Polish Legal Association have already visited London and the Czechs and Hungarians are likely to follow. But, according to the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at Wolfson College, Oxford, all three associations have a broader purpose than the study of commercial law.

This year the Socio-Legal Studies Association, founded through the Oxford Centre, invited Professor András Sajó of the Institute of Legal and Administrative Sciences in Budapest, to be the main speaker at its recent annual conference. Bob Deacon, lecturer in law at Leeds Polytechnic, is planning a lecture and study tour by legal scholars from central and eastern Europe in July, a reciprocal visit by British specialists and a summer school for young scholars. The Oxford Centre is to hold a joint Anglo-Polish symposium on family law in April next year. The Centre for the Study of Socialist Legal Systems at University College London has the longest-established links with the eastern bloc, and has been organizing exchanges of scholars with the Soviet Union and Poland for several years.

While the European Commission continues to churn out European legislation at the rate necessary for it to remain on course, what is the European novice's best guide to the Brussels-Strasbourg-Luxembourg circuit? You would expect a chap from the Commission to back a European guide, but no. David Bennett of the Commission's London office last week addressed a conference on the impact of 1992 on British charities and he admitted he owned three guides to the EC produced by the American Chamber of Commerce. "There are none better in my experience," he said, although he did say that publications produced by Britain's Department of Trade and Industry contain some useful information. He did add that, though the American publications will set charities back £160 for the three, the DTI guides are free.

As lawyers are forced to the conclusion that the practice of law has become a business, and a business made 10 times more complicated by the activities of the lawmakers in Brussels, there is a growing army of publishers willing to assist them through the minefield. The latest company devoted to the task will be launched on May 30. Chancery Law Publishing, an offshoot of Bloomsbury Publishing, is headed by Andrew Prudeaux, who left his position as managing director of Sweet & Maxwell two years ago to work on the new venture.

The company plans to bring a fresh approach to law publishing. Mr Prudeaux explains: "Chancery Law Publishing has a new European angle, as well as a focus on management. We will tackle the Brussels 'law lake', tracking down laws that are hard to find, and provide lawyers with technical information on the management of their firms."

Brodies, an Edinburgh law firm, is well-known in Scottish circles as a traditional one, catering for the "country set" and assisting them in the search for an estate complete with castle. The firm used to have a strong corporate practice and has now signalled its determination to recapture this market share. Enter John Matthews OBE, its new chief executive until recently president of ICI Brazil. Not only did the firm take the definitely untraditional path of advertising for someone for the new post, indicating a £50,000 salary plus bonuses, but it has appointed a man of commerce. After the display of a *comme à sens* approach to management by his former boss, John Harvey-Jones, in the BBC series, *The Troubleshooter*, the firm must have high expectations of Mr Matthews. Perhaps Brodies will be the first law firm to sell a share to the Japanese.

SCRIVENOR

Why compromise makes sense

Professor Roy Goode urges full support for a convention on the international sale of goods

the forum. This would involve time and expense, as well as encouraging forum shopping.

Then there is the much-vaunted superiority of English law, the belief that contracts count for nothing except where governed by English law. But for every such contract entered into by an English exporter or importer, there is another contract governed by foreign law which may well be less favourable to him than the convention.

An importer confronted with a contract governed by Ruritanian law, with which he may be unfamiliar, that is in a foreign language and which reflects a non-common law tradition, may prefer to have his rights governed by a set of uniform rules which reflect common law as well as civil law influences, that feature in an authentic English text

and which regular usage will make familiar to him.

At present, international traders may have to familiarize themselves with the laws of a large number of foreign countries. Is it not sensible to provide them with the opportunity of subscribing to a single uniform law, adapted as they see fit?

In addition, where an English case involves a sales contract governed by foreign law, the parties may have to go to great expense and call in expert evidence. But where the convention rules apply, the court takes judicial notice of them and this expense is avoided.

Often when one party to a contract is reluctant to have the other party's law imposed on him, they compromise and use a neutral law. The convention provides a neutral law which, as its universal-



ity increases, will become ever more convenient.

The convention is as way impairs the freedom of contract enjoyed by businesses. Parties may exclude the convention almost in its entirety or vary its effects as they please. Thus ratification of the convention does not interfere with

the ability of the parties to select English law minus the convention if they prefer.

It would be better for the UK to ratify sooner rather than later so that English courts can give rulings that might influence the courts of other countries.

The convention is proving attractive to other members of the European Community. The UK would be both unpopular and disadvantaged if it adopted an isolationist attitude.

Where harmonization can be achieved, it helps to eliminate the impact of differences in national laws, thus facilitating cross-border trade and saving time, expense and uncertainty. The conclusion of a sales convention of more than 100 articles has involved a prodigious amount of work and international collaboration spread over years.

The convention is far from perfect, but reflects a sensible compromise of widely contrasting viewpoints. If similar ventures are not to be discouraged, it is important that it receive support.

• Professor Goode is the Norton Rose Professor of English Law at St John's College, Oxford University.

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THE LAW

Sex equality won for pensioners

LEGAL BRIEF

The European Court has ruled pension benefits and retirement ages for men and women must be the same, writes Anthony Lester, QC

Thursday's decision by the European Court of Justice, in *Barber v Royal Exchange Assurance Group*, is in every sense a landmark judgement. As from May 17, every man and woman in this country is entitled to equal treatment without sex discrimination as regards private occupational pensions benefits and redundancy benefits. We are at last in the same position as men and women elsewhere in the European Community.

No matter that the discrimination arises because the employer or the pension scheme trustees have linked the ages at which men and women can obtain benefits with the pensionable ages of men and women (60 and 65 respectively) under the State pension scheme.

The European Court has decided that occupational pensions benefits are part of the wide concept of "pay", within the guarantee of equality between the sexes in Article 119 of the EEC Treaty; and that the use of different age requirements for men and women as a condition for obtaining those benefits is contrary to Community law.

The same applies to redundancy pay, and, presumably, to pension contributions. For good measure, the Court has also held that every

element in an employee's remuneration must be equal to the remuneration of a comparable employee of the other sex.

No matter that Parliament has not implemented Article 119 of the EEC Treaty by legislating for sex equality in this field (as the Equal Opportunities Commission has urged for many years). The Court has decided that Article 119 can be directly relied upon in national legislation. The statutory exceptions in British equal pay and sex discrimination legislation (for discrimination in relation to death or retirement) are now displaced by the paramount law of the Community.

Ten years ago the Equal Opportunities Commission, as part of its carefully planned European litigation strategy, supported the first of a series of test cases in Luxembourg to establish that the vital Community principle of equal pay applies to pensions. The EOC was courageous and persistent in pursuing that strategy. It has not been easy. There has been

a real risk that the EEC cases would eat up the EOC's modest legal budget.

In that first British reference to Luxembourg (*Worthingham v Lloyd's Bank Limited*), the European Court completely decided the issue of principle. In several subsequent cases (such as *Burton, Newstead and Bilka*) the Court was ambiguous and inconsistent in its approach to principle, probably because there was a strong division of opinion among the judges.

These cases caused me to describe the Court as having sounded an uncertain trumpet. We came to view this aspect of Community law through a glass darkly.

But now the full Court has come to a firm conclusion, and the sound of the trumpet out of the Luxembourg is certain.

The *Barber* judgement is one of several recent decisions showing that the Court takes the principle of sex equality very seriously. Employers, trade unions, and

public officials will now have to take it equally seriously.

Ever since we joined the Community, successive British Governments have argued before the European Court against the effective application of the principle of equal pay. First they argued that the principle was not directly effective and could not be relied upon directly in national courts. Then they argued that it did not require equal pay for work of equal value. Then, again and again, they contended that pension benefits were outside its scope. Each time they were wrong. The time is surely overripe for the Government to argue more strongly on the side of equal treatment, and to translate the principle into effective legislation.

During the 1980s, with British Government encouragement, a series of EEC directives were approved by the Council of Ministers on a piecemeal and fragmented basis, to introduce equality into this area at a leisurely pace. Wise employers introduced

• The author is counsel to the Equal Opportunities Commission and a specialist in European and administrative law.



Now equal: both sexes can enjoy the same retirement benefits

Law Report May 22 1990 Court of Appeal

Insurance company defeats widow's admitted claim by 'playing the game'

Foster v Turnbull and Others
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Leggett
(Judgment May 15)

In an action brought by a widow to sue the administrators of the estate of her husband killed in a motor vehicle accident, purported service of a writ by her solicitors on the solicitors of Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society as representatives of the Motor Insurers Bureau had been

Nolan that pursuant to Order 15 rule 6A(4)(b) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, they be appointed to represent the estates of the first and second defendants for the purpose of proceedings.

Order 15 rule 6A provides:

"(3) An action purporting to have been commenced against a person shall be treated, if he was dead at its commencement, as having been commenced against his estate . . ."

"(4) In any such action . . . (a) the plaintiff shall, during the period of validity for service of the writ . . . apply to the court for an order appointing a person to represent the deceased's estate for the purpose of the proceedings . . . (b) the court may, at any stage of the proceedings, and on such terms as it thinks just and either of its own motion or on application, make any such order as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) and allow such amendments (if any) to be made and make such other order as the court thinks necessary in order to ensure that all matters in dispute . . . may be effectively and completely determined and adjudicated upon."

The solicitors for the plaintiff asked Norwich Union to accept service. On May 29, 1986 Norwich Union asked an officer on the firm of Sylvester & Mackett, Trowbridge, solicitors, to serve the writ. That was done on June 2, 1986 and Sylvester & Mackett later acknowledged service on behalf of each of the three named defendants.

On May 22, 1987 the period of validity for service of the writ expired. In October 1987 and January 1988 further discussions on quantum took place without agreement.

In June 1988 Norwich Union chose new solicitors. The new solicitors, Greenwoods, wrote to the plaintiff's solicitors pointing out that they had failed to obtain an order under Order

15, rule 6A of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

There followed in September 1988 a hearing before a deputy district registrar who refused to make an order under Order 15, rule 6A and also refused to extend the validity of the writ. On December 16, 1988 Mr Justice Nolan allowed the appeal.

It had been common ground before their Lordships that because the first and second defendants had died intestate before the commencement of proceedings, the plaintiff's solicitors ought to have applied for orders under Order 15, rule 6A(4)(a) that a person be appointed to represent the estates of those defendants and that proceedings be carried on against the person or persons so appointed.

The solicitors for the plaintiff even if an order could properly have been made under paragraph 4(b) of the rule, despite the fact that the plaintiff

had not complied with sub-paragraph (a), that could not have had the necessary retrospective effect because, apart from the absence of any express words, the writ was never validly served, and indeed was never served at all on Norwich Union, whether validly or not.

There was therefore no relevant step, albeit a nullity, available to be validated, even if that were feasible.

Subject to the argument about estoppel the judge therefore had no jurisdiction to make the order appealed from.

Sylvester & Mackett could not have supposed that they were acting for personal representatives of the deceased since they neither had express instructions or specific authority to act for them nor grounds for believing that there were any; and, in any event, no personal representatives were parties to the action, and Sylvester & Mackett

did not purport to accept service on their behalf.

The alleged estoppel therefore failed because the estates were never more than "abstractions" or legal devices to save from invalidity the issue of the writ against the first and second defendants; and so a representation, even if acted on, that the solicitors had authority to accept service on behalf of the estates would not help the plaintiff.

It had been submitted that Norwich Union was to be taken to have represented that what was done would constitute good service. But service was not at large; it had to be upon a legal person.

None of the available candidates to accept service could have been validly served because none of them was party to the action except the defendants, and they were dead.

Since the steps taken in the proceedings after the issue of the writ were all nullities, none of them could create an estoppel binding on Norwich Union.

The action had therefore died through the incompetence of the plaintiff's own solicitors.

But what they did or omitted to do was assented to or contributed to, if not abetted or induced, by Norwich Union and Sylvester & Mackett since shortly after the accident had occurred, Norwich Union had been aware of the plaintiff's claim, and had declared that their liability to meet it was not in issue.

Notwithstanding this opportunity to shed their responsibility, it was still open to Norwich Union to safeguard their reputation by meeting the claim.

For the reasons given his Lordship would allow the appeal.

Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Slade delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Greenwoods; Goughs, Chesham.

of such procedural rules as might prove to benefit them.

It was difficult to believe that the board of Norwich Union, still less their shareholders, could be aware that Norwich Union was intent on passing to the professional indemnity insurers of the plaintiff's solicitors their own liability to meet the claim of a widow who with the concurrence of Norwich Union had for seven years been looking to them for compensation for the death of her husband.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Continued on next page

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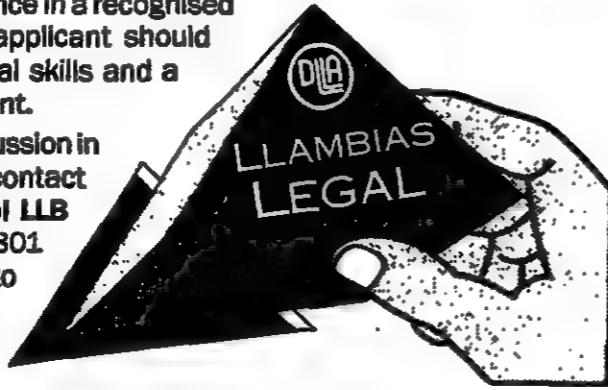
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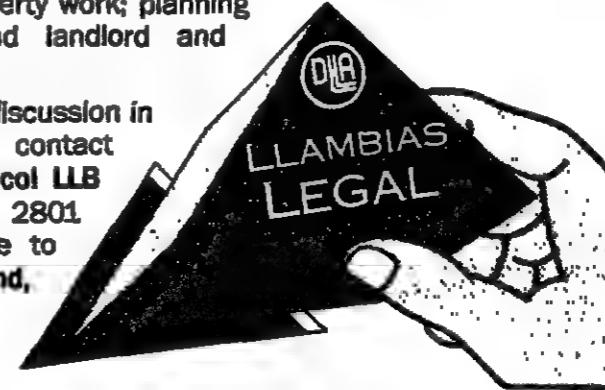
Commercial Property Competitive City Rate

The property department of this substantial London practice require newly or recently qualified solicitors who have preferably gained commercial property experience with a City firm and who are able to demonstrate originality of thought and a high level of academic achievement.

The department offers the opportunity for young solicitors to gain a wide variety of experience in all areas including:-

Acquisitions and disposals; secured lending and development work; insolvency related property work; planning and environmental law and landlord and tenant matters.

For further information, or a discussion in complete confidence, please contact **Gary Johnson** or **Deborah Nicol LLB** on 071-836 9501 (058 283 2801 evenings/weekends) or write to **Llambias Legal**, 410 Strand, London WC2R ONS.



PUTTING THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE RIGHT JOBS

Dunford Ford

Dunford Ford, one of the largest providers of legal services in the South East, requires a number of skilled and experienced professionals to play a vital role in the development of its Head Office Central Legal Departments and Bureaux to meet the challenges of the 1990's.

All appointments are based in Hastings on the East Sussex Coast.

Successful candidates will demonstrate excellent legal skills and enjoy working as part of a team to provide a top quality service.

Part-time/Flexi-time Solicitors

The Directorate is responsible for monitoring and quality controlling all work undertaken within the Organisation and, as such, must review and analyse files to ensure the highest standards are maintained.

Solicitors and other lawyers with excellent practical experience are required to assist in the analysing of files.

Appointments can be offered to persons preferring to undertake either part-time/flexi-time work or "at home" work.

Legal Technicians - Solicitors, Barristers, Legal Executives or persons trained to similar standards

We require a number of experienced professionals to work as part of our team in our Civil Disputes Bureau - dealing with cases based on contract and tort (but excluding PI).

Head of Legal Services

The Head of Legal Services will be a solicitor who has a proven experience in Criminal Law. The appointee will be confident of possessing such organisational skills as will be necessary to lead an efficient team in preparing cases from instructions through to representation in Court. The Bureau is responsible for all preparatory work but representation before the Courts is generally undertaken by the firm's Advocacy Faculty.



If you would like to consider joining us, please write enclosing C.V. to Mrs. May Stacey, Personnel Department, Dunford Ford Solicitors, Administration Centre, St. Hawken Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1BE. Telephone: (0424) 442442.

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Please enclose full CV and letter direct to Philip Bambridge, HR Personnel Manager.

Box 54,
137 High Street,
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DE14 1JZ.



COMPANY COMMERCIAL to £45,000 Holborn

Our client, a successful and expanding medium size central London practice seeks a solicitor 2-5 years PQE to take control of their own portfolio in this busy company commercial department. The role will involve exposure to the full range of yellow book matters and offers excellent career progression.

INSOLVENCY to £38,000 Birmingham

We established progressive practice with offices throughout the heart of England seeks solicitors with experience in insolvency to join a busy section acting on behalf of a wide range of clients from large listed public companies to small sole traders. Benefits and prospects are excellent.

PROPERTY to £38,000 Birmingham

A solicitor 2-3 years qualified with experience in property development transactions in sought to join this progressive forward thinking commercial practice in one of their major departments acting for developers, builders and for investors and banks providing finance for the development projects. First class career prospects and excellent benefits.

Call or write with full CV to Paul Staplehurst or Andrew Vivian on

071-236 4402

6-7 Ludgate Square, London EC4M 7AS.



GRADUATES required to assist in the preparation of legal documentation. This is a long term assignment minimum 12 months and we expect regular travel to Birmingham.

Please apply with full C.V. to Mrs. Sarah Williams, Dept. Arnold Cooper, 12 Bridge Place, London, EC4V 6AD.

Garfield Bob

Garfield Bob

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071-481 4481

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

CONSTRUCTION LAWYER

Non-contentious

City

Our client is a major international firm based in the City; an important part of the practice centres on the world of property. The Construction & Engineering Law Group within the Property Department caters for clients' needs in this specialised area. The work of the Group covers all aspects of drafting, negotiating, and advising on building and engineering contracts and related matters for UK and international clients. Advice is also given on intellectual property, information technology and EEC aspects of construction and engineering projects.

up to £35,000

Our client is now seeking an additional lawyer for the Group with between one and three years' post qualification experience. Candidates will have a property or commercial law background from private practice or the construction industry. Our client offers considerable scope for developing a specialisation while maintaining a variety of interesting work.

Please contact Anna Ponton on 071-236 8000 or write to her enclosing full career and salary details, quoting reference K3379.



Peat Marwick Selection & Search

70 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1EU

PENSIONS/ CORPORATE

STANLEY'S
SOLICITORS

Our Client is a long established City firm with a thriving and diverse commercial practice. It provides its fee earners with a dynamic and challenging working environment and a varied case load, made possible because its departments are grouped primarily by client type not individual specialism.

The Company Department is now seeking an additional lawyer, ideally 2-5 years qualified, who can bring further expertise in the field of pensions, employee benefits and share schemes.

The role will be of particular interest to those who wish to continue applying their specialism whilst extending their practice into more general company/commercial areas. Further training and supervision will be provided where necessary.

The firm pays highly competitive City salaries and can offer genuine prospects to those of the requisite calibre.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Macrae on 071-405 6062 (081-672 8340 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



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CONTRACTS ADVISERS

Thames Valley

As part of an international information technology and telecommunications group with a \$2 billion turnover, our client requires both a Senior Contracts Adviser and a Contracts Adviser within their Government and Defence Business Unit.

The successful candidates will form part of a high profile management team and are expected to be involved with setting and implementing contractual standards and practices, and contributing to the Unit's business plans and sales strategies.

Excellent interpersonal skills are required as there is an important part to play in negotiations with customers, liaising with

c£20k/c£25k + Car + Benefits

sales/business managers and dealing with subcontractors. A legal background whilst preferable is not essential.

For an applicant who can show prior contracts experience and the above qualities, there is a clear path for future promotion to senior management status. Interested applicants with less experience will be assured of a full training from the current Contracts Manager.

For further information applicants should telephone Jayne Bowtell LLB (Hons). Manager Legal Division on 071-437 0464, or write to her, enclosing brief details, at the address below.

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Queens House 1 Leicester Place London WC2H 7BP
Telephone: 071-437 0464

Construction Birmingham

Our Client is one of Birmingham's leading private practices with an impressive commercial client base which includes plc's, major private companies and financial institutions.

They now wish to recruit a young and ambitious Solicitor with up to three years post-qualification experience to join an expanding and dynamic department dealing with all aspects of contentious and non-contentious construction work.

The successful candidate will ideally have some experience in construction related matters, although this is not essential, provided he/she can demonstrate commercial flair and the ability to work as part of a team in this pressurised but rewarding position.

A highly competitive remuneration package is offered together with the opportunity for considerable career development within the context of a thriving commercial environment.

If you would like to be considered for this challenging position, please contact Simon Lipson or Michael Silver, both of whom are Solicitors.

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Dramatic upturn in project finance work, leading City firm's Hong Kong office.

Litigation c. £35,000
Major commercial/insurance disputes in South East Asia region.

LEEDS

Employment To £32,000
Top firm seeks employment specialist for contentious/non-contentious mix.

LONDON

Company To £35,000
High profile medium-sized City firm, broad range of corporate finance, M&A and commercial work.

Re-insurance To £32,000
Recognised litigation practice seeks specialist insurance/general commercial litigator with interest in this field.

Insolvency To £35,000
Leading City firm's non-contentious insolvency group seeks lawyers with relevant experience.

For further information, or a discussion in complete confidence, please contact Jonathan Macrae on 071-405 6062 (081-672 8340 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD.



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cellnet Backed by British Telecom

LEGAL ADVISER

Aged 25-35

c£24,000 + Car + Bonus

Telecommunications have become an essential feature of modern business with Cellular Mobile Communications as one of the most remarkable technological developments of recent years. Cellnet is at the forefront of this market possessing unrivalled experience in all forms of communication.

As a result of Cellnet's rapid expansion there exists an immediate requirement for a commercially minded lawyer to become involved with all aspects of the Company's activities.

Reporting to the Legal and Regulatory Manager responsibilities will include negotiation and drafting of contracts, monitoring and management of litigation processes and the provision of general commercial legal advice.

This is an outstanding career opportunity for a lawyer with good company commercial or contracts experience to play a prominent role within a fast-moving, dynamic organisation.

For further information, interested applicants should telephone Fiona Campbell, on 071-437 0464, or write to her, enclosing brief details, at the address below.

ROBERT • WALTERS • ASSOCIATES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
Queens House 1 Leicester Place London WC2H 7BP
Telephone: 071-437 0464

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Hungary • German Democratic Republic • Poland • Czech and Slovak Federal Republic • USSR

Baker & McKenzie is looking to expand its team of lawyers working in its Central and East European Practice Group. With offices already operating in East Berlin, Budapest and Moscow, the Firm is seeking to recruit a number of skilled and enthusiastic practitioners.

The Positions offered are both at a junior and senior level in:-

a. corporate finance including privatisation, and

b. general commercial, joint venture and international trade work.

Language capabilities are an advantage. Existing experience in Eastern European work is not essential.

We offer an excellent remuneration package, with travel opportunities and the chance to develop your expertise with one of the firms operating at the forefront of this practice area.

Applications should be made in writing and will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. They should be addressed to: Ms Halina Karpowicz, Baker & McKenzie, Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4JR. Tel: (071) 242 6531.

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A small firm providing international fiscal and associated financial advice (but not investment advice) operating in London's West End, seeks Lawyer to provide legal input to co-ordinated advice to clients.

The Lawyer concerned should have suitable qualification, either as Solicitor or Barrister and, if possible, have experience in offshore trust and company services.

Attractive working conditions and profit sharing.

Apply to Mr Derek Gray FCA Tel: (071) 636 4583
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YOUNG LAWYERS WANTED

Euromoney Publications, the world's leading international financial publisher, is recruiting young lawyers to run a number of their expanding publishing and publishing related businesses. Originality, energy and hard work are essential characteristics of the successful applicants.

Excellent salary package. If you are interested write with CV to

Diane Chaplin
Director of Administration & Personnel
Euromoney Publications
Nestor House, Playhouse Yard
LONDON EC4V 6EX



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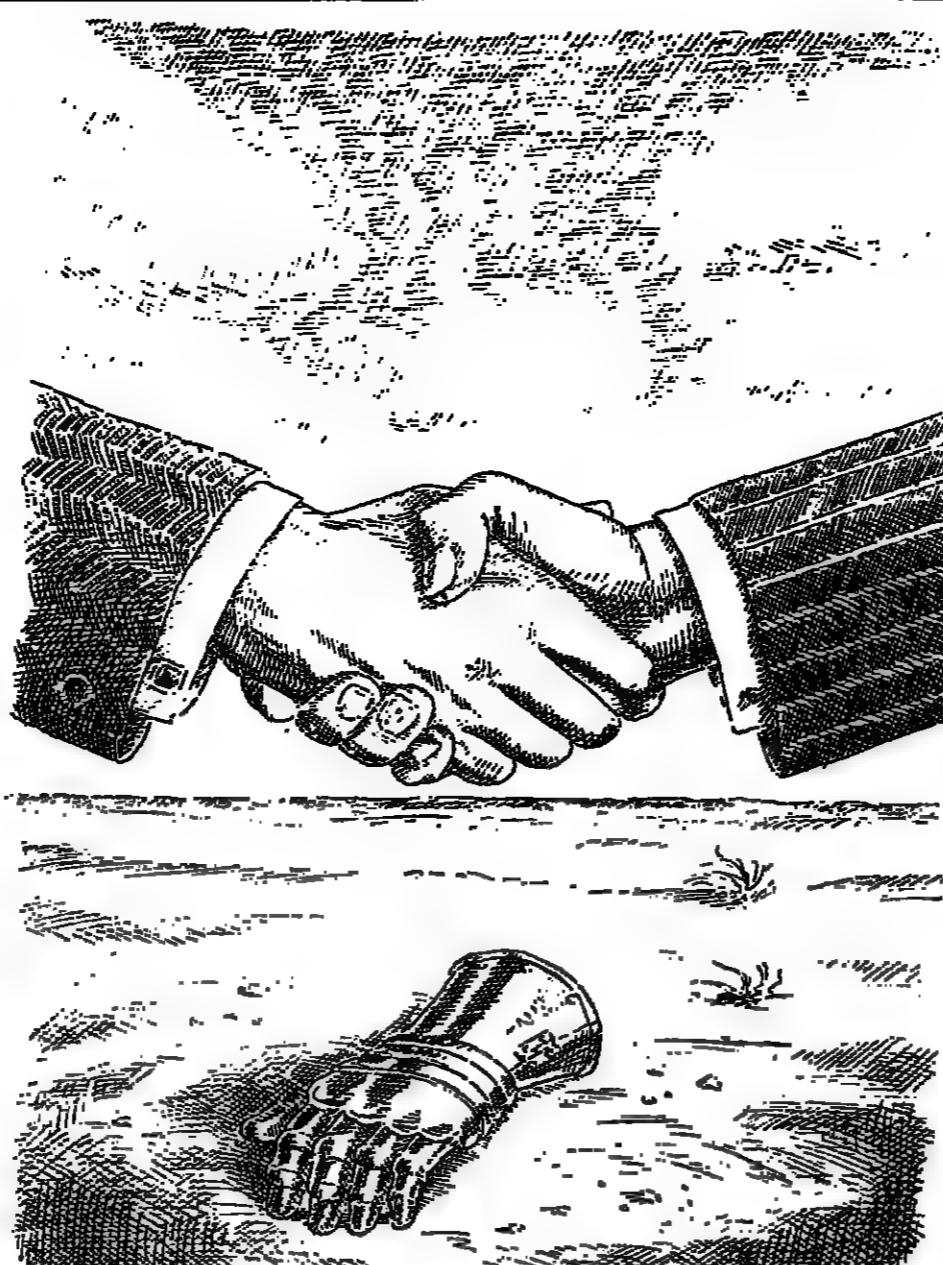
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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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**A challenge
for the
individual.
In Litigation.**



As a full service City firm, Linklaters & Paines attracts contentious work from across the legal spectrum. This means that, as a litigation lawyer with us, you won't be following any rigid formulae - you will be varying your approach to suit the particular problem.

Lawyers who succeed here are those who like to find creative solutions before problems ever reach court, those who take a constructive rather than a dogmatic approach.

We encourage the individual to decide on the way ahead, and as a qualified lawyer you will appreciate why. You know your own strengths, and will work with our other lawyers to achieve the best results for our clients.

This flexibility is also reflected in the wide variety of work you will be handling. Linklaters can offer you a range of experience which would be hard to match, giving you a broad base for your future.

The result - litigation lawyers with the imagination and confidence to work as individuals and who soon gain the knowledge and variety of skills which are necessary for success at the highest level.

If you would like to know more about the openings we have for qualified litigation lawyers, contact Anna Thorne on 071-606 7080, or write to her at Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA.

**LINKLATERS & PAINES****PRIVATE PRACTICE****EMPLOYMENT****E27 to E40,000**

Niche city firm specialising in Employment. Seeks 2 solicitors, NQ-2 yrs + c3 yrs + strong academics to handle a mix of non contentious and contentious work.

PENSIONS Any price

Leading City practice keen to recruit Pensions Lawyers. Open as to yrs PQE. Substantial remuneration for a proven track record.

BANKING £25,000-£60,000

Holborn firm. Seeks banking lawyer NQ-5 yrs to act for Japanese banks. Strong personal skills.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY to £40,000

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Contact Karen Mulvihill on **071-405 4571**

We have made a commitment to 100% integrity - we never send out CV's without first referring to the candidate and seeking approval.

Applied Management Sciences

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
c. £70,000-£150,000

TWO outstanding opportunities have arisen with our client, a highly successful commercial firm based in W1, which is committed to expansion and the development of its highly prestigious client-base.

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A senior lawyer is sought to head up the existing team of experienced property partners. It is envisaged that applicants for this post will be in a position to introduce an additional portfolio of commercial clients and to demonstrate a proven record of high performance and managerial ability. These credentials are essential in order to maintain the first class reputation and development currently enjoyed by other departments.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL-PARTNER DESIGNATE

Continued expansion in this extremely profitable area of the firm's business, has created a challenging opening for a first class commercial lawyer. Currently offering a wide range of corporate and commercial advice to private and public companies and successful entrepreneurs, the team requires another senior lawyer with aspirations towards early partnership and increased involvement in international work.

In both cases, the rewards on offer to the successful candidates are exceptional, and in the first instance, applicants should contact John Cullen or Lucy Hartley, in the strictest confidence, on 071-831 9988 (during office hours) or 081-802 7330 (evenings and weekends). Or, if you prefer, send your comprehensive CV to The Bloomsbury Group, 11th Floor, New Oxford House, 137 High Holborn, London WC1V 6PL.



Contact Ian Pearce on **071-405 4571**

Psychometric assessment is available to our candidates to select career alternatives best suited to their personality and aptitudes. The results are reviewed in confidence.

26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE Fax: 071-242 1411 Evenings: 081-858 7840

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Expanding Common Law Chambers invite applications for tenancies from established practitioners 5 years call upwards. Group applications considered.

Applications in writing with curriculum vitae, in strict confidence, addressed to Mr. Michael Harrison and marked "Tenancy Application".

Booth	Bennett
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Assistant Solicitors (to £30,000)	
CIVIL - general case load with emphasis on personal injury	
CRIME - advocate for high quality work.	
Two excellent opportunities to join a team committed to provide first class legal services in a first class professional environment.	
Apply with CV to: Steven Booth The Market House High Street Uxbridge Middx UB8 1AQ	

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1. PRIVATE TAX BARRISTERS/SOLICITORS: This top 8 firm of Accountants require specialists to join their Private Clients Department. Exposure to PPF issues, offshore trusts, wealthy and entrepreneurial clients and personal tax consultancy. This fast growing firm has a commitment to training and rapid career progression.

2. CORPORATE TAX SPECIALISTS: Experienced tax specialists required by this leading accountancy practice to join their expanding tax division. Assess the financial implications of corporate restructuring, acquisitions and disposals, USM flotations and "one-off" special assignments, often with international elements.

For further details contact BARRETT PALLETT on 071-404-3155 (Evening) or 081-851-7715 (Evening) or forward CV to ALDERWICK PEACHELL & PARTNERS 125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA. (Rec Cens)

ROYAL AIR FORCE LEGAL OFFICERS

for service abroad on tours of duty for up to three years.

For further information and details of career prospects, write with comprehensive c.v. to:

Air Commodore G. W. Carleton, RAF, Directorate of Legal Services, Lacon House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 9RY.

£590 pay scale.



**ROYAL
AIR FORCE**

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

071-481 1066



HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT DEFENCE HERITAGE PROJECT

Project Co-ordinator

£23,395 - £27,735

The Defence Heritage Project is a major local authority and tourist board sponsored scheme that aims to promote the development, interpretation and marketing of Hampshire's wealth of castles, forts, military museums, historic ships and other heritage sites being brought together under the Defence of the Realm banner.

You will promote Defence of the Realm by co-ordinating the plans and activities of site owners, local authorities, tourist boards, and other defence heritage interests, and encouraging financial support from public and commercial sources.

Current driving licence required.

Job description and application form are available from the County Secretary, Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UJ. Tel: 0962 847301.

Relocating expenses up to 100% payable, plus mortgage subsidy and car leasing schemes.

The Council pursues a policy of equal opportunity and applications are particularly welcomed from people with disabilities.

Closing date: 15 June 1990.

PRINCIPAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES OFFICER

Salary Range: Senior Management Grade C (£19,142-£21,042)



ARE YOU:

- Highly Motivated
- A Self Starter
- Enthusiastic
- Imaginative

The Dorset Management Services Unit is looking to recruit a management consultant to take a leading role in the provision of internal consultancy services to its clients which include the full range of County Council Departments. The existing postholder is moving to her new post with the Audit Commission.

DO YOU HAVE THE SKILLS AND ABILITY TO:

- Solve management and organisational problems
- Lead a team (or work alone)
- Communicate effectively
- Work to deadline

If you think you may fit this demanding role then further details and an application form may be obtained from: The Chief Executive, Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ or telephone Graham New, Chief Management Services Officer (0305) 204831 for an informal discussion. The closing date for applications is 15th June 1990.



QUALITY MONITORING MANAGER

NORTH LONDON BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Applicants are invited for this newly established post at the Regional Transfusion Centre responsible for the provision of blood and blood products for the population of 3.8 million.

The Quality Manager will be responsible for the design, development, implementation and maintenance of a comprehensive system of Quality Management in the Centre.

A science degree, preferably at the postgraduate level, is required. Experience of quality assurance and/or blood transfusion service is essential. A knowledge of GMP requirements, interest in information technology or ability to undertake research and teaching would be advantageous. The successful candidate should have initiative, good communication skills and the ability to motivate staff.

Salary approximately £18,000 - £20,000 (pay award pending).

For application form and job description please telephone 081-905 9642, 24 hour answering service or write to Personnel Department, NLSTC, Colindale Avenue, NW9 5BG quoting reference number 144/PTA90.

Closing date for applications: 28th June, 1990. Visits should be arranged with Dr. B. Brozovic on 081-200 7777, ext. 2270.

SUNDERLAND HEALTH AUTHORITY

UNIT GENERAL MANAGERS

To address the demands of securing high quality health services in the context of changing patterns of delivery, we have reviewed our structures and created two new significant Management Units.

We recognise that structures do not deliver Health Care and are seeking Unit General Managers with the vision, drive and skills needed to lead these major Units in meeting the challenges and opportunities of the NHS Review, at a time of substantial service change.

ACUTE HOSPITAL SERVICES UNIT

Salary Negotiable - circa £36,000 +PRP +Benefits

A large Acute Unit with over 1,000 beds in three hospitals, incorporating accident and emergency services and several sub regional specialties. The Unit employs 3,000 staff and has a revenue spend of £36.5m. A £1.5m capital development is scheduled for 1993. The Unit brings together two former Units of management, each with resource management sites.

MENTAL HEALTH REHABILITATION UNIT

Salary Negotiable - circa £32,000 +PRP +Benefits

This Unit brings together the Mental Health Unit and the Acute Elderly Services Unit into one significant specialist Unit. There is already a commitment to substantial service change, in mental health, involving a programme of increased community care and reduction in hospital beds. Significant changes in acute bed provision will enable the further development of specialist rehabilitation services. The Unit employs 1,600 staff and has a revenue spend of £19m.

We are seeking two outstanding managers with the ability and determination to succeed in these demanding high profile management posts. A track record of management achievement is essential.

These posts provide outstanding career and management opportunities and a comprehensive benefits and remuneration package. The area is one of immense variety and offers an enviable quality of life.



To obtain an information package contact the District Personnel Department, District General Hospital, Kayll Road, Sunderland SR4 7TP. Tel. (091) 5656256 Ext. 2411.

Closing Date 5th June 1990

We Aim to be an Equal Opportunities Employer

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE



The European Patent Office is a self-financing intergovernmental organisation responsible for the granting of patents throughout Europe with a total of 4000 highly-skilled staff. The EPO is in the process of rapid expansion and is implementing a very wide-ranging automation plan, which involves overall investments of more than 300 million DM's over the next 5 years, and includes projects with budgets in the range of tens of millions of DM's in the areas of

- full electronic processing of patent granting procedures
- creation of text and image databases of over 20 million patent documents together with associated retrieval and document delivery systems
- electronic publishing
- personal computing
- office automation

To support and play a leading role in the plans outlined above the EPO is looking for a

DIRECTOR OF SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

to be based in THE HAGUE, who will have office-wide responsibility for development and maintenance of EDP systems, involving the management of approximately 50 internal staff (project leaders and system analysts/programmers) and a significant number of external contractors.

Candidates for this post should have broad managerial skills, and experience in the development of advanced information systems especially in the areas of methodologies and project management.

Terms of Employment and Salaries

Permanent employees are offered an attractive salary which is exempt from national income tax (up to DM 150 000 a year depending upon age and experience) supplemented, where appropriate, by various allowances together with comprehensive private medical insurance coverage and a very attractive pension scheme.

Candidates must have a good university degree, an active knowledge of English, and the ability to understand French and German, as well as being nationals of one of the Member States of the EPO (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Fed. Rep. of Germany, France, Greece, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom).

Applications, accompanied by a curriculum vitae containing a detailed description of professional experience and a recent photograph should be made in one of the three official languages (English, French, German) to:

European Patent Office
Personnel Department
P.O. Box 5619
2280 HV Rijswijk
The Netherlands

European Patent Office
Personnel Department
Erhardstrasse 27
D-8000 Munic 2
West Germany

Closing date for applications is two weeks after the date of publication of this advertisement.

Join some excellent company at Directions 1990.

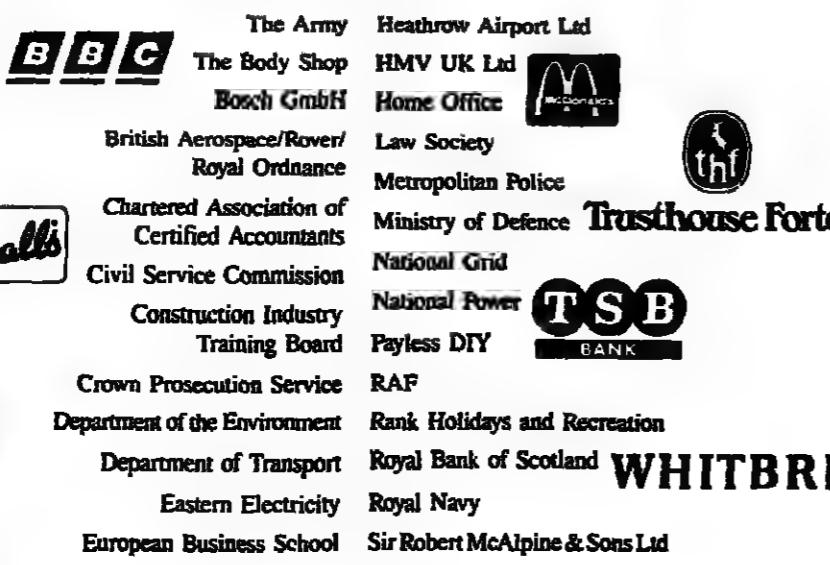
Directions 1990 is the largest Careers and Higher Education Fair of its kind.

Its aim is to put bright young people from across the country in touch with a range of organisations interested in high flyers, from school leavers to graduates.

It represents a unique opportunity for representatives from universities, polytechnics and top companies like the ones below, to meet the cream of Britain's youth.

If you think you fit any of the above descriptions, make sure you're at Olympia June 28th - 30th, for Directions 1990.

For more information about taking a stand at Directions, contact: Kate Davison, Trotman & Company, 12 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6UA. Tel (081) 940 5668.



WHITBREAD

THE TIMES • THE SUNDAY TIMES

DIRECTIONS

CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR
28th 29th & 30th June 1990 Grand Hall Olympia

HORIZONS

Our food protectors

Industry uses modern technology to ensure that what we eat is safe.

Neil Harris meets the scientists

Salmonella and listeria have been so well publicized during the past few years that questions about food and its preparation are now matters of public concern. Problems with benzene in Perrier water and scares about vandals who have put foreign matter such as glass and mercury into foods have been a regular occurrence in recent years. These pose questions to which the food scientists must find the answers.

Food is the largest item in the household budget, accounting for a fifth of total consumer spending, and the industry employs more than 650,000 people. All the leading food suppliers employ food scientists to develop new products, modify existing ones and ensure good hygiene and safety for the consumer.

Just one small scare can destroy the market for a well established brand name overnight. Employing food scientists, who have an in-depth understanding of the chemical and biological processes that occur in foods, are the manufacturers' best defence against such a catastrophe.

The Food Safety Bill, now reaching the final stages of its progression through Parliament, will inevitably increase the employers' demand for food scientists.

The minister will almost certainly obtain powers to register and license premises on which food is processed

and prepared," says David Duke, lecturer in food legislation and quality assurance at Reading University.

"There will be a need for technically qualified people to help with that process. If a company is sued for food poisoning it will have to demonstrate that it has taken 'due diligence', and the only way it can do that satisfactorily is to employ technically competent staff."

A recent report from the Department of Health on the microbiological safety of food took a close look at how environmental health officers monitor and control the food industry. Again the support of more qualified food technicians would be a step in the right direction.

These developments are bringing food scientists, and the need for more of them, under the spotlight. Food scientists are laboratory based. Their work includes the study of every facet of the food chain, from the raw materials to the family meal.

Most manufacturers are highly responsible. Their employees' health and cleanliness are carefully monitored. Raw materials are stored in con-

trolled conditions, their quality checked, and bacteria kept at bay. Food scientists painstakingly research new processes for manufacturing foods and the effect that different processing methods have on novel products.

A few years ago they were under attack for putting too many additives into foods, especially colourings and preservatives. The present trend is to seek ways of reducing the presence of additives.

Packaging is another problem. It must be hygienic, keep foods fresh for as long as possible, and be attractive to the customer. Now, with increased public awareness of green issues, it must also be environmentally friendly and tamper-proof to deter vandals. Food scientists research the conditions in which different foods should be kept to maintain maximum shelf life. They are not concerned with storage only at the factory but also during transit, perhaps in refrigerated lorries, and on the retailers' shelves. It is a varied and demanding job.

One of the attractions of becoming a qualified food

scientist is that it provides an entrance into a diverse range of employers. The food industry itself is varied. It includes dairy products and beverages, bakery products, meat, cereals, chocolate bars and confectionery manufacturers.

But there are other employers. All the leading food retail chains employ food scientists to monitor their suppliers, propose new products and ensure the satisfaction of their customers. The Agricultural and Food Research Council and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food employ food scientists to work in their laboratories or on food policy matters.

In addition, there are independent research associations, including the Campden Food and Drink Research Association, which undertakes contract research.

Mr Duke says many food scientists could be required to oversee the new regulatory mechanisms being set up by the Government, probably working in close co-operation with environmental health officers and the public analysts, who check food samples to track down where problems have arisen.

• Two pamphlets, *Careers in Food Science and Technology* and *Where to study for a career in Food Science and Technology*, can be obtained from the Institute of Food Science and Technology, 3 Cambridge Court, 210 Shepherd's Bush Road, London W6 7NL.



Testing times: Mr Tony Jay in his Greenford laboratory, Middlesex

DEVELOPMENT TEAM

TONY JAY, product development manager at Lyons Tetley, the Allied-Lyons food division, says: "We are in three businesses — tea, coffee and groceries. I manage three teams of scientists and technologists, and a back-up group. They work on the new product development of coffee and groceries and create new packaging. This involves maintenance projects to extend or modify our products."

"Packaging is becoming more important. It must form a barrier to keep freshness and resist tampering attempts. It must be environmentally sound and not leave behind unacceptable waste. We are striving constantly to develop innovative packaging ideas."

"The coffee group is devoted to developing and understanding the technology of coffee-processing and how this may be used to benefit the company's new products and processes. The grocery team undertakes technical maintenance of existing products, improving Ready Brek, our breakfast cereal, for example, by removing artificial colours and developing new variants such as Country Brek and Honey Brek. The team has also found a way to reduce the additives and artificial colourings in fruit-topped cheeses."

"Finding new products takes a lot of effort. For every new one that gets to the market, there are many failures. My team spent many years on the extensive development of cooker extrusion for breakfast cereals and bagged snacks, but these were eventually abandoned. Just a single success makes up for many failures. The development and launch of round tea bags took five years and £9 million, but its success gave us all a tremendous fillip."

Mr Jay graduated in food science 10 years ago from Leeds University. He began his career with Dairy Crest, where he helped to develop industrial spray-dried milk powders, before moving to Lyons Tetley.



UNIT GENERAL MANAGER PRIORITY CARE

**Salary range: £35,000 - £44,500 p.a. + PRP
(Lease Car, Partnership Mortgage Scheme and Relocation Expenses Available)**

The Unit: Serving a population of 224,000 including a purpose built Mental Handicap Unit with Community provision; a Mental Illness Hospital of 415 beds with Community provision and Day Centres. An active Community Unit including purpose built Day Centres and GP Hospitals. The Unit has successfully improved its services within its budget allocation of £16 million this year.

The Job: to carry forward a successful Unit with an established team, to meet the challenges in the Government White Paper 'Working For Patients' by managing new relationships with GPs, local authorities and others. To continue to improve the Health Service provided by the Unit, to develop an organisation able to meet the future.

The successful candidate: Must be able to demonstrate the skills, insight and maturity necessary to manage a complex organisation during a period of significant change. Preferably he or she will have a knowledge of Health Care provision and organisation but primarily be able to demonstrate a track record of relevant accomplishments.

Informal enquiries to Mr Tony Marchant, District General Manager, Tel: Dartford (0322) 229322 Ext. 323.

Application form and information package available from District Personnel Department, District Headquarters, Darent Park Hospital, Gore Road, Dartford, Kent DA2 6LZ. Tel: (0322) 229322 Ext. 305/307

Closing date: 18th June 1990

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

*Focus
On...*

FINANCE

Oxford Regional Health Authority

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

CAPITAL PLANNING OFFICER — V55/90

Grade 6 £12,000 - 14,000 p.a.

ASSISTANT CAPITAL PLANNING OFFICERS — V56/90

Grade 4/5 £8,000 - 12,000 p.a.

(Both posts have a pay award pending)

Due to promotion of the present postholders we are now looking for Capital Planning Officers to help with planning of schemes within our Capital Programme. The posts offer excellent opportunity to gain experience working with multi-disciplinary planning teams, developing capital projects at a time of major change in service provision.

If you are interested in developing a career in Health Service Capital Planning, have a logical approach to work, good organisational and communicative skills and an ability to contribute fully as a team member, then we would like to hear from you.

Health Service Capital Planning experience is not essential in the Grade 4/5 posts as training will be given. However, previous planning experience, preferably in the Health Service, is necessary for the Grade 6 post. Career development both posts will be encouraged.

The posts are based at the Oxford Regional Health Authority offices in Headington, Oxford. There will be a need to visit District offices and hospitals; though not essential initially, use of car will be a necessity. A car lease scheme is available.

For an informal discussion of these career opportunities please contact either Mrs V Lamb or Mr P Draper on Oxford (0865) 84861 exts 441 and 331 respectively.

For further details and an application form please contact the Recruitment Officer (quoting the appropriate reference) at the address below.

Closing date: 1 June 1990

Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LF. Tel: Oxford 64861. Ext 238

FINANCE

Principal Management Accountant Headquarters

c.£20,000 pa inc

We are looking for a Management Accountant to develop and improve financial management information to managers.

Applications are invited from male or female accountants with the experience and maturity to work with senior managers in a small, strategic environment.

The Regional Headquarters' revenue budget is approximately £20m per annum and the Region is busy reshaping its services to meet the challenges of the NHS White Paper.

Persons seeking further information should contact Alan Stephens on 071-262 8011 ext: 4119.

Application form and job specification are available from HQ Personnel, SWTRHA, 40 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 3QR. Tel: 071-262 8011 ext: 4026 (ansaphone 8am-8pm). Please quote Ref: 90/88/HJ/1.

Closing date: 1st June 1990.

South West Thames Regional Health Authority

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Postcode: B60

MASCALLS SCHOOL : PADDOCK WOOD DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE KENT PAY PLUS SCHEME : (£19+ - £23+)

Mascalls is a successful and popular 11-18 comprehensive school in West Kent. This year it received its first delegated budget under local management and is looking for a dynamic and enterprising Director of Administration and Finance.

This is a key new post; responsibilities will range from planning and monitoring the budget, controlling financial systems, publicity and marketing, generating income and clerking the governing body.

Ideally the successful applicant will have a proven financial background and an active interest in current educational issues.

Further details and an application form may be obtained from F.J. Gale, Headteacher at the school (Tel: 0872 5364).



LEGAL

County Secretary's Deputy County Secretary

£29,577-£32,541

A Manager with considerable legal and administrative experience at a senior level is required to fill this second tier post in the recently established County Secretary's Department. The post offers an outstanding opportunity to make a leading contribution to the development of the new department and to the management of the changes required to meet the challenges of the 1990s.

A legal background and qualification is essential and you will also need to demonstrate exceptional management and leadership skills.

The post is based in Northallerton, a market town within easy reach of some of Britain's finest countryside, including the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors National Parks.

Application forms, returnable by Monday 4th June, 1990, from the Personnel Section, Chief Executive's Department, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL7 8AD Tel (0609) 780780 ext 2815.



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DEPUTY BOROUGH TREASURER

The last three holders of this post have achieved Chief Officer status and it is for this reason that we are again looking to fill this vital job in the Council's financial structure.

We offer the prospect of an extremely demanding job covering all aspects of the financial management of the authority, and in return we offer:

- * A Salary of up to £24,998 p.a. (including 5% local weighting plusage)
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 - * Payment of Professional Subscription
 - * Pension Scheme
 - * Excellent Re-location Package
 - * A Marvellous Place to Live and Work
- If you feel that you are able to meet our challenge, please contact the Personnel Section, Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Municipal Offices, North Quay, Weymouth DT4 8TA, telephone (0306) 206316 (direct line), for an Information Pack and Application Form.

CLOSING DATE: 4 June 1990

WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

RMoss
All grades of Res/field Social Workers required.

Contact:
Resource Care Services
Tel: 081-442 4042.

ALL BOX NO. REPIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:
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P.O. BOX 494,
WAPPING LONDON
E1 9BD

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NORTHERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FINANCE DIVISION PRINCIPAL AUDITOR (OPERATIONS) Salary c£17,000 + prp (pay award pending)

This position provides an excellent opportunity for a finalist/accounting technician with relevant background to enhance his/her management skills and experience in the dynamic and increasingly competitive environment that will take the NHS into the 1990s.

You will be required to play a significant role in the development and provision of an effective and efficient audit service and deputy for the Regional Auditor on non-computer audit material.

Informal enquiries to Mr E Smith, Regional Auditor Tel (091) 2246222 Ext 46170 or application form and job description available by telephoning Personnel Division on Ext 46117. Northern Regional Health Authority, Benfield Road, Walkergate, Newcastle NE6 4PY. Quoting ref no 134/90. Closing date: 31 May 1990

TENNIS

Seles steps out of pack to threaten supremacy of Graf

By Andrew Longmore, Tennis Correspondent

JUDGEMENT will have to be deferred until after the French Open, which begins next week, but the smoke signals emerging from Rome and Berlin in the past week suggest that the old order in women's tennis is starting to change. Monica Seles might have reflected on that as she went sightseeing along the Berlin Wall yesterday, 24 hours after her historic victory over Steffi Graf in the final of the German Open and just a week after her emphatic win over Martina Navratilova in the final of the Italian Open.

Not surprisingly, at the age of 16, Seles could not quite come to terms with her first victory over Graf, the player she admires and fearing most on the Kraft world tour. "It hasn't sunk in yet," she said, her innocence as infectious as the machine-gun giggles that punctuates every conversation. When it does, she will probably faint with fright because, after a meteoric first year as a professional, the young Yugoslav had mentally prepared herself for a year of consolidation in 1990. "I can't expect to have the same sort of success next year as I have done this," she said in Brighton at the end of last year.

More important, perhaps, she has stepped out of the pack to become the chief threat to Graf's supremacy in the grand slam events, at least on all surfaces other than grass, and the most likely successor to the West German as the world's No. 1.

Even by tennis standards, the speed of Seles's rise has been extraordinary. Barely a year ago, tennis was heralding a new teenage prodigy, a slightly built girl, born in Novi Sad in Yugoslavia and trained at Nick Bollettieri's academy in Bradenton, Florida, who hit the ball absurdly hard, two-handed off backhand and forehand, and accompanied each shot with the noise of a steam engine's whistle.

She reached the semi-final of the French Open, taking a set off Graf before losing, and lost again to Graf at Wimbledon, her first experience on grass. "I've never seen so much grass," she said at the time. By the end of the year, she had risen from 88 to No. 7 in the world.

But the real test was always going to come in her "sophomore" year, her second year as a professional. Andre Agassi, another Bollettieri pupil, had faltered badly at the same stage, enforcing the widely held view that the hard-hitting Bollettieri baseliners only go so far in the game. Ironically, Seles's recent progress from prodigy to potential grand slam winner has done nothing to change that view. Two weeks ago, Seles left the Bradenton academy and made her father, Karoly, her full-time coach.

"My father has always been with me through good times and bad. He knows my game best," she said last week. As her elder brother, Zoltan, is in charge of her business affairs, Seles and Co have become a highly profitable family firm. They will continue to be so as long as they leave the wage-earner in the family alone.

GOLF

Boxall can go on to greater things

From Mel Webb, Milan

ITALY in mid-May was not really on Richard Boxall's schedule when he was planning his year back in the dark and cold months of winter. But then he made a good start to the season, and decided to come here to play in the Italian Open because of another, much bigger target in his sights.

As the tournament started Boxall was lying third in the list of five who will gain automatic exemption to the Open Championship at St Andrews in July. The only stipulation is that all must be in the top 20 of the Volvo Order of Merit after this week's PGA championship.

Boxall, aged 29, from Camberley, in Surrey, made sure of his place by leading the tournament from first to last, finishing with a round of 68 and a total of 267, 21 under par, and moving up to fifth in the money list. He won £50,000 to take his season's haul to almost £104,000, more than he has previously won in a season. It was the first Tour victory by a Briton for 11 weeks and the first of the season by an Englishman.

Boxall has been on the Tour for eight years, and although one of its most prolific gatherers of birdies, he had not backed up his superlative striking ability with a victory. But a sunny disposition and a constant resolve to keep the cup of life well topped up masked a determined

inaction to prove himself a winner, although it was not even this.

What kick-started him into the latest, most successful phase of his career was the success of his close friend and frequent room-mate, Derrick Cooper, in winning the Madrid Open at the age of 33 in 1988. "That made me realize that you don't have to be in the top 10 to win," he said. "Plenty of others have done it in the last couple of years."

Those with a bent for punditry will already have marked him down as a potential Ryder Cup player next season, a prospect that he is treating with the caution it deserves. "If I am playing as well as I am now at this time next year, then we'll start thinking about it," he said.

The Volvo PGA Championship at Wentworth this week is a tournament he is looking forward to. "I like playing at Wentworth," he said. "And I'm in the right mood to do pretty well there." The smile had vanished. He has experienced the taste of victory — and the indications are that he quite likes the flavour.

EUROPEAN TOUR Leading money: 1. J. Woodman (GB), £103,624; 2. E. Rose (GB), £102,574; 3. M. O'Hearn (GB), £112,578; 4. R. McNally (Ireland), £103,519; 6. A. Boxall (GB), £102,574; 7. B. Langer (West Germany), £102,569; 8. S. Barker (GB), £99,232; 10. M-A. Marin (Sp), £96,354.

Waiting in the wings

By John Hennessy

A TOURNAMENT at Prince's from today until Thursday brings a reminder that professional golf does not begin and end with the Faldo's and the Ballesteros's. The fifth event of the PGA European Challenge (formerly Satellite Tour) throws a familiar name into competition, for the £3,200 first prize.

Perhaps more important than the money is the opportunity the tournament offers of four

rounds of competitive golf while waiting to mix it with the big boys. That would certainly apply to Steven Richardson, still technically the English Amateur Champion but now in his first year on the full European Tour.

The entry includes two members of last year's successful Walker Cup team, Andrew Hare and Darren Prosser, and a return from the past, Tannie Brizzi, a South African now settled in Kent.

TABLE TENNIS

England given plum draw against Japan

From Richard Eaton

ENGLAND have been given the best possible draw for their quarter-final of the World Team Cup here today by being paired with Japan. Donald Parker, the captain, believes they are the weakest of the group winners but knows his team may be up against several thousand noisy home spectators.

England beat Japan in Budapest earlier in the season, but this time it seems possible their opponents will play two defensive players, Koji Matsushita and Tsuneyasu Yokomoto. It is a long time since England's new leading light, Chen Xinhua, has competed against top-class players of this style.

If Chen can play well again today and England do beat Japan, then the reward will be another clash with Sweden.

RESULTS: Quarter-finals: men: North Korea v Soviet Union, 3-1; Sweden v Netherlands, 3-2; women: China v Czechoslovakia, 3-1; South Korea v Hong Kong, 3-0; Japan v Soviet Union, 3-1.

Sedgwick goes semi-professional

By a Special Correspondent

DONNA Sedgwick, the third-most-capped player in the history of English women's volleyball, has signed for Longnony, the French first division club, on a two-year contract, thus becoming the first woman in the British game to become a semi-professional.

Sedgwick, who helped Sovereign Leasing Sale to the women's first division title in the Royal Bank English League in 1987 and 1988, played her last match for the Cheshire club on

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

England v Uruguay (at Wembley, 8.00)

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance

championship

11.0, 102 overs minimum

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v

Leicestershire

TAUNTON: Somerset v Derbyshire

THE OVAL: Surrey v Hampshire

NOV: Sussex v Glamorgan

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v

Nottinghamshire

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v

Essex

Tour match

11.0, 104 overs minimum

BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v

Somerset

EUROPEAN CRICKETERS CUP

(Guernsey)

BAIN CLARKSON TROPHY: Shropshire Park

Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire

Surrey v Hampshire

EAST: Essex v Middlesex

LONDON: London v Lancashire

EUROPEAN CRICKETERS CUP

(Guernsey)

BIRMINGHAM: Warwickshire v

Nottinghamshire

LIVERPOOL: Lancashire v

Yorkshire

MIDLANDS: Warwickshire v

Nottinghamshire

NORTH: Northants v

Essex

NORTH: Northants v

Champions face hefty defeat after Pringle, Foster and Topley go close to taking Essex to victory in two days

Worcestershire in trouble as history threatens to repeat

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

NEW ROAD (second day of three): Worcestershire, with two second-innings wickets standing, are nine runs behind Essex

IN THESE confusing early weeks of the County Championship, this match stood out irresistibly. It was last year's champions against the resentful runners-up, a battle of the clubs who have between them won the title five years out of seven. It promised much, yet it has been spectacularly one-sided.

Essex would have won it well inside this second day but for an unbroken ninth-wicket stand of 83 in which Phil Newport mocked all that had gone before. For Worcestershire, it was a day of unfamiliar ignominy. They had not been required to follow on for six seasons. They had not lost by an innings, which they still might, since August 1983, when the venue was Colchester and the visitors Essex. That year, Essex went on to win the title; those who were present yesterday would not be inclined to discount a repeat.

This is the classic way to win a three-day game: win the toss, score 400-plus while the pitch is at its best, then bowl the opposition out twice. That it was all but over inside two days is testimony to how rapidly everything happened; 17 wickets fell yesterday.

The champions are well aware how badly they bowled on Saturday. Indeed, one of their fast bowlers is said to have volunteered for a pay cut in remorse at his efforts.

Notts force Warwickshire into the backward defence

By Richard Streeton

EDGBASTON (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 177 runs ahead of Warwickshire

GEOFF HUMPAGE was the only batsman to pass 50 yesterday in this tightly contested championship match, though there was no obvious explanation for the individual low scoring. After Nottinghamshire gained a first-innings lead of 51, they lost Broad and Marindale as they stretched their advantage.

Warwickshire, who scored 17 on Saturday for the loss of Lloyd, hardly batted with the conviction of early championship leaders and were dismissed by ten. Only several hard hits by Donald and Benjamin, their last pair, brought them a third batting point.

Apart from a typically robust 74 from Humpage, the Nottinghamshire bowlers were generally in control and Randall took three good catches. Two were at second slip but the best was low and right-handed at backward short-leg to get rid of Asif Din and was worthy of Tony Lock in his halcyon days.

Humpage avoided serious error as he drove and pulled 13 fours from 88 balls and he deserved to reach three figures. His 29 hundreds have been widely spread and Nottinghamshire and Middlesex are the only

counties he has never made one against. Warwickshire were 79 for four when Humpage came in.

Cooper gained two successes in his first spell and obtained some movement from a pitch, which occasionally provided the quicker bowlers with unexpected bounce. Pick obtained more lift than anyone; Stephen森 for once did not always find the right line. Hemmings, against his former county, subdued everyone except Humpage.

Warwickshire's problems began in the day's fourth over when Cooper beat Mole's forward defensive shot after the batsman had run to have a look. The left-hander, less-often Kallicharran, was beaten through the air by Hemmings outside the off stump and finally lifted his back foot.

Din and Humpage added 55 before Din tried to turn a ball from Hemmings and Randall took a reflex catch near the batsman's hip pocket. Neeve played second fiddle at Humpage became more aggressive. His 100-ball effort lunch came in disappointing fashion when he took evasive action against a short pitched ball from Pick and was caught off his glove at second slip.

Pick got another ball to lift

Umpires: J Hampshire and A Jones.

Bryan overshadows Moody

Club cricket by Michael Austin

ANDREW BRYAN, with a match-winning six off the final ball, upstaged the debut of Tom Moody, the Australian all-rounder, for Mitchell and Butlers against Walsall, and helped secure joint leadership of the Birmingham League.

Moody, who toured England last summer without playing in the Ashes series, is contracted to Warwickshire this season with part-time duties, when available, for M and B – the county club's sponsors.

He began with an innings of 54, after taking two for 17 in 11 overs, but Bryan, a more than all-rounder, amassed the points with four for 47, and produced the master stroke when he deposited the last ball on to the adjacent bowling green for a two-wicket victory.

The Western League yielded three individual hundreds, with Matthew Horne making the

Staffordshire victory

STAFFORDSHIRE, who achieved their first win in the qualifying round of the Holt Cup on Sunday after eight years of trying, will meet Oxfordshire in the first round at Christ Church, Oxford, on June 3 (Michael Austin writes).

Oxfordshire edged a two-wicket win over Wales with four balls to spare. Cumberland, the

holders, will play Durham, who beat Cheshire by nine wickets two days ago.

Cumbria, Lancashire and Staffordshire (Prestwich) v Oxfordshire, Cheshire, and Bathurst (Christ Church, Oxford), Berks v Buckinghamshire, Wellington College, Bedfordshire v Hertfordshire (Borehamwood), and Northants v Northants (Leycester School); Suffolk v Lincolnshire (Framlingham College); Cornwall v Wiltshire (Truro); Dorset v Devon (Dart Park, Matlock) to be played on June 3.

Larkins loses struggle

ENGLAND'S unaccountable decision to include Wayne Larkins in their party for the Texaco Trophy when neither his form nor fitness merited it, has its predictable outcome yesterday when he withdrew without even the formality of a public test (Alan Lee writes).

Larkins had been due to play for Northamptonshire's second team at Ilkeston yesterday in order to reassure the selectors that his fractured finger had recovered. In the event, a couple of weekend net practices con-

vinced him that he was not ready.

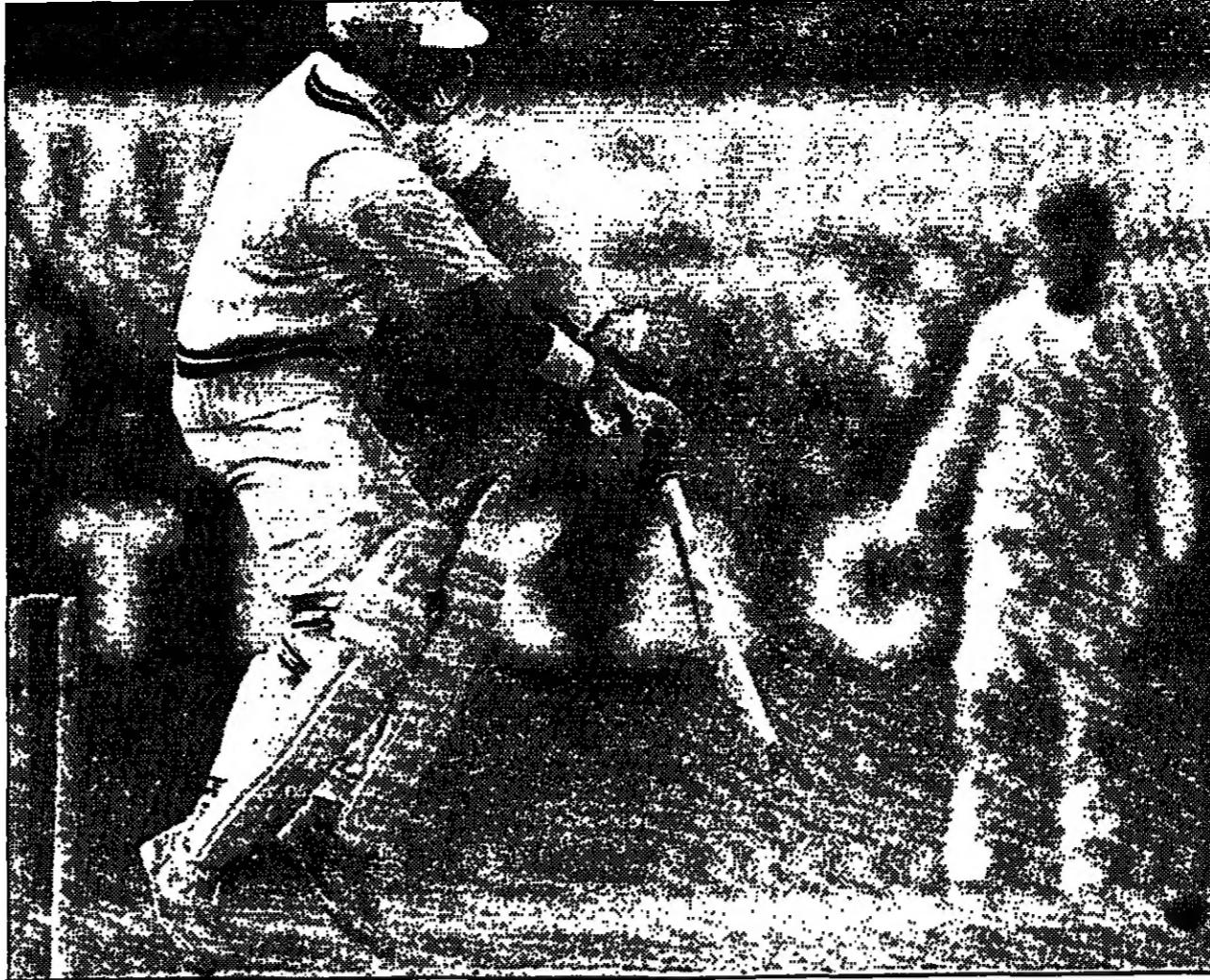
Neil Fairbrother, of Lancashire, is the replacement, earning some reward for his heavy run-scoring in all types of cricket this summer, and David Gower now seems certain to open the batting with the captain, Graham Gooch.

The fact, however, that both Larkins and Angus Fraser have pulled out of the chosen squad indicates that his fractured finger was unwise to include them so soon after long-term injuries.

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Defiant defence: Botham held out to score 53 in the first innings but went for just five in the second

Walking wounded offer hope

By Jack Bailey

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings
T S Curtis lbw b Gooch 49
M J Weston c Gooch b Foster 14
K R Pringle b Pringle 1
J T Botham c Foster b Topley 53
D B O'Driscoll c Hardie b Topley 32
S R Lampard lbw b Topley 1
P J Newport c Waugh b Topley 18
M V Rashid b Foster 10
G R Dilley not out 0
Total 273

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 108, 3-162, 4-163, 5-223, 7-225, 8-254, 9-257.

BOWLING: Foster 19-6-73-3; Pringle 2-17-7-3; Topley 19-6-74-4; Waugh 13-7-66. Good news for England.

The second wicket stand was worth 99 when Curtis, surprised by extra bounce, nudged Pringle to third slip. Illingworth was not so easily dismissed. Already this season, he has made a century, batting at seven, and 74 as nightwatchman against New Zealand. He relishes his frequent excursions up the order and had made his 89 in only two hours when bowled by one which kept low.

Botham began with a solid four for four from his first ball. For two hours, he played with admirable restraint without ever quite being in touch.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-19, 3-21, 4-21, 5-22, 6-22, 7-22, 8-22.

SIXTH wicket: Worcestershire 4. Essex 5. Umpires: B Dudson and P B Wright.

Lord's: Middlesex drew with the New Zealanders

LEFT to make 300 in a minimum of 51 overs to beat Middlesex at Lord's yesterday, the New Zealanders finished with 243 for eight. With a jackpot of £25,000 (offered by Tetley Bitter) available to them in the event of their winning all nine of their three-day matches against the counties they were keen enough, but Martin Crowe was protecting a slightly strained hamstring and he, along with Speight, having sustained them over the weekend – and some irresponsible bunting by those who were still fit, saw them following on, 180 runs behind Glamorgan.

Despite the loss of two early second-innings wickets, a stand of 93 between Speight and Dodemaide has given them a fighting chance of avoiding the shutters coming down early today.

Paradoxically, it was Parker, who was as hamstring damaged, and Speight, with a sprained leg, who did most to steer Sussex within reach of avoiding the follow-on. Indeed, Speight played two fine innings. Parker came in at the fall of the seventh wicket and, although hobbling painfully, played his strokes crisply.

A last wicket partnership with Babington added 65 in 85 minutes, the highest partnership of the innings. It also gave Babington the best score of his career, amid great applause from the knowledgeable crowd, and thus after Sussex had been in danger or sinking without trace,

If England are going to have difficulty bowling New Zealand out in the Tests, the reverse is equally true. In this match the New Zealanders took only nine wickets in 153.5 overs. Haynes picked up another hundred yesterday, his second for Middlesex already this season, three of them first-class. The only other Middlesex player to have made two hundreds in a match against a touring side was Peter Parfitt, a touring side was Parfitt.

A last wicket partnership with Babington added 65 in 85 minutes, the highest partnership of the innings. It also gave Babington the best score of his career, amid great applause from the knowledgeable crowd, and thus after Sussex had been in danger or sinking without trace,

Before this welcome display of resolution, only Speight had done himself and Sussex justice. He batted throughout his two innings of the day for 60 and 62 not out, using Hall as a runner throughout, and he showed Hall considerably by dealing largely in boundaries. His 61 in the first innings contained eight fours, struck with the power and authority which belied his state of fitness, and he added another 11 fours at the second attempt.

This is Hall's first match for Sussex and he, poor fellow, though out cheaply twice, spent more time at the crease than anyone.

The Glamorgan attack, on a typically good Hove pitch, was undoubtedly Alan Mullally, a tall, left-arm fast bowler. Aged 20, he was born in Essex and played in a match for Hampshire two years ago but, perhaps significantly, was brought up in Australia, where he has experience of Sheffield Shield cricket.

Mullally regularly beat the ball back into the batsmen and was unlucky to finish without a wicket. He twice had Fowler dropped in the slips, first at 28 and again at 50.

The pick of the bowlers was Frost, who is enjoying a fruitful season with his new county. It is not difficult to see why. He pads up off a short run, gets close to the wicket, keeps his arm high, rarely strays in length or line and moves the ball late away from the right-hander.

All these virtues were seen to effect when, in company with other more promising bowlers, Vivian Richards, he ripped the wickets of Speight, Gould and Moores falling in the space of 10 balls.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings
T J Botham c Gooch b Frost 84
N E Brines c Gooch b Frost 25
A J Weston c Hardie b Frost 14
J T Botham c Hardie b Frost 10
K R Pringle c Hardie b Frost 18
P J Newport c Hardie b Frost 14
M V Rashid c Hardie b Frost 10
G R Dilley not out 0
Total 222

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-54, 3-102, 4-134, 5-179, 6-199, 7-234, 8-234.

BOWLING: Pick 20-4-46-2; Stephenson 19-2-63-3; Hemmings 19-2-63-2; Coopers 1-23-7-23; Saatchi 4-11-0.

Sixth wicket: Warwickshire 5. Nottinghamshire 8.

Umpires: J Hampshire and A Jones.

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of three): Leicestershire, with nine wickets in hand, are 152 runs ahead of Lancashire

IN ACCORDANCE with latest wisdom, it was the turn yesterday of Leicestershire's bowlers to learn how to bowl on Garton's absence kept the game open enough when the New Zealanders went in at 245. It could hardly have been a better pitch, and after Wright and Jeff Crowe had got things moving Jones and Greatabright had 103 in 18 overs. Thrusfield and Weeks each took his first first.

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Before this welcome display of resolution, only Speight had done himself and Sussex justice. He batted throughout his two innings of the day for 60 and 62 not out, using Hall as a runner throughout, and he showed Hall considerably by dealing largely in boundaries. His 61 in the first innings contained eight fours, struck with the power and authority which belied his state of fitness, and he added another 11 fours at the second attempt.

This is Hall's first match for Sussex and he, poor fellow, though out cheaply twice, spent more time at the crease than anyone.

The Glamorgan attack, on a typically good Hove pitch, was undoubtedly Alan Mullally, a tall, left-arm fast bowler. Aged 20, he was born in Essex and played in a match for Hampshire two years ago but, perhaps significantly, was brought up in Australia, where he has experience of Sheffield Shield cricket.

Mullally regularly beat the ball back into the batsmen and was unlucky to finish without a wicket. He twice had Fowler dropped in the slips, first at 28 and again at 50.

The pick of the bowlers was Frost, who is enjoying a fruitful season with his new county. It is not difficult to see why. He pads up off a short run, gets close to the wicket, keeps his arm high, rarely strays in length or line and moves the ball late away from the right-hander.

All these virtues were seen to effect when, in company with other more promising bowlers, Vivian Richards, he ripped the wickets of Speight, Gould and Moores falling in the space of 10 balls.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings
T J Botham c Gooch b Frost 84
N E Brines c Gooch b Frost 25
A J Weston c Hardie b Frost 14
J T Botham c Hardie b Frost 10
K R Pringle c Hardie b Frost 18
P J Newport c Hardie b Frost 14
M V Rashid c Hardie b Frost 10
G R Dilley not out 0
Total 222

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-54, 3-102, 4-134, 5-179, 6-199, 7-234, 8-234.

BOWLING: Pick 20-4-46-2; Stephenson 19-2-63-3; Coopers 1-23-7-23; Saatchi 4-11-0.

Sixth wicket: Warwickshire 5. Nottinghamshire 8.

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RUGBY UNION

Cooke fears ban on touring could hit World Cup hopes

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

GEOFF COOKE, the England team manager, has criticized the "apparently arbitrary" World Cup regulations which favour the preparations of countries from the southern hemisphere for the 1991 tournament.

In his report to the Rugby Football Union (RFU) on England's international season, Cooke stressed the need for an England tour in July next year to bridge the gap between the end of the five nations' championship and the World Cup.

"There is some concern that the apparently arbitrary regulation for the World Cup which prohibits touring after July 31, 1991, discriminates unfairly against northern hemisphere countries," Cooke said in his report, which went before the RFU executive committee earlier this month.

"This means that although Australia and New Zealand can play international matches in August as part of their preparations, we cannot."

"It is important, therefore, that we try to arrange a short tour in July 1991, otherwise we will not have had any serious match practice before

the end of the five nations' and the opening game, against New Zealand."

Australia and New Zealand have arranged back-to-back internationals in August next year in which the Wallabies will travel to play against a New Zealand provincial XV, followed by a full international, then the All Blacks will visit Australia to play their B XV and the national side. These matches do not, in the view of either union, constitute a tour and thus do not infringe the World Cup regulations. Hence Cooke's concern that negotiations now under way for July next year — with Australia and Namibia — bear fruit.

The manager is also critical of the gap in standards between the game at international level and first-division club rugby. "We must make greater efforts to get club coaches on to our wavelength and, in particular, try to persuade clubs to change their training habits."

"By this I mean abandoning a rigid 'one night' for conditioning and one night for practice' pattern, which is common to many clubs, and

the nature of modern competitive sport inevitably means that the demands on everyone's time ... are greater than ever before and this burden is likely to increase still further during the next decade."

Isaac's fears are well founded. By the end of the five nations' championship, the gap between the end of the five nations' and the opening game, against New Zealand,

there would be only 10 days for the six internationals, leaving just 10 days for the possible two tours. There is no room to be put to general

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Wright's surprise in a date with destiny

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

MARK Wright was yesterday included in the predictable list of 22 players for England's World Cup squad for the finals in Italy this summer, but only after an early morning call. "That was a nice surprise for him," Bobby Robson joked as Wright had not been aware that he would be awoken shortly after 7 o'clock.

Wright had to keep an appointment with destiny. He was driven from the team's hotel in Buckinghamshire to London where his bruised thigh was X-rayed and scanned. Only when the results of the tests were known was the mind of the England manager put sufficiently at rest.

The prognosis revealed that Derby County's central defender should have recovered fully in six days. Robson trusts that Wright will indeed be fit before next Tuesday, when the squad must officially be submitted. If not, Adams will be invited to take his place among the reserves.

Of the four to be omitted, Adams collected the most lavish of the bouquets thrown deliberately in their direction. "He looked a gold nugget when he first came into the side," Bobby Robson said. "He's had a marvellous season and, in four years, he could be the captain of England."

Rocastle, another of the three Arsenal representatives to be told the crushing news, was also offered a few public words of comfort. "He's particularly unfortunate, because six months ago, he was a certainty before he was injured. He'll be a leading figure in the next World Cup as well."

Beasant and Smith, though they cannot realistically look forward to such bright horizons, were nevertheless mentioned in dispatches, too.

ENGLAND WORLD CUP SQUAD

	Age	Caps	Goals
Goalkeepers			
1 P Shilton (Derby County)	40	116	0
13 C Woods (Rangers)	30	16	0
22 D Seaman (Arsenal)	26	4	0
Defenders			
2 G Stevens (Rangers)	27	38	0
2 P Parker (OFL)	26	4	0
15 A Dorigo (Chelsea)	24	3	0
12 T Butcher (Rangers)	31	70	3
5 D Walker (Nottingham Forest)	24	16	1
3 S Pearce (Nottingham Forest)	28	22	1
14 M Wright (Derby County)	26	23	0
Midfield players			
20 T Steven (Tottenham)	26	26	3
19 P Gascoigne (Tottenham)	22	9	2
7 B Robson (Man Utd)	33	84	26
18 S Hodge (Nottingham Forest)	27	20	0
6 S McMahon (Liverpool)	28	12	0
8 C Waddle (Marseille)	29	50	0
4 N Webb (Man Utd)	26	19	3
Forwards			
11 J Barnes (Liverpool)	26	51	9
9 P Ferdinand (Liverpool)	23	38	7
10 G Lineker (Tottenham)	29	49	31
5 S Bull (Wolves)	25	5	3
17 D Platt (Aston Villa)	23	4	0

● Team numbers refer to the official listing order for the Cup.

As well as "taking it like men" when they heard they had missed the cut, the quartet have contributed to raising the party's spirit to a level described as "terrific".

Having trudged away in disappointment, Adams, Beasant, Rocastle and Smith cannot afford to allow lethargy to set in. They have been asked to stand by in case of emergency. So have a few specialists "in case we lose, for instance, a full back".

Robson preferred not to disclose their identities but he has already intimated that, should a full back be ruled out, the understudies would be Dixon on the right and Winterburn on the left. They are among seven Arsenal players to be rejected.

The squad will be one of the oldest and most experienced in Italy. Led in both departments by Shilton, who is on schedule to set a new world record of 120 appearances in

the quarter-finals in Mexico in 1986. In some respects they are, if anything, potentially inferior.

Butcher is no longer as reliable, as was confirmed last week against Denmark. Beardley, the natural foil for Lineker, has not played competitively for six weeks and cannot be certain of regaining his usual effervescence. Pearce is not as subtle as Sansom, nor are Gascoigne and Webb technically as gifted as Hoddle.

Barnes and Waddle have progressed, but they are still incapable of consistently fulfilling their potential. Even Lineker, immeasurably sharper now than when he was suffering from hepatitis during the European championships two years ago, will be, in Bobby Robson's words, "a marked man rather than a surprise package".

Apart from Lineker, Waddle and the contingent from Rangers, the rest have also missed another four years of education in the European classroom. Youngsters such as Dorigo, Gascoigne, Parker, Platt and Seaman are inevitably still novices in the international arena.

Bobby Robson declares that it is also the strongest of the three he has assembled for an international tournament. The statement was accompanied by enough notes of caution to suggest that he is not yet ready to blow loud the patriotic bugle.

"It is the best," he said, "arguably, and on paper. But Franz Beckenbauer will tell you that the West German squad is the best he's had in his six years and the Egyptians are better than they were four years ago. We are all seeking to improve our standards."

Although Bryan Robson and Walker are indisputably in a higher class than were Reid and Fenwick, it would be unrealistic to claim that England are otherwise substantially superior to the sides knocked out by Argentina in



Putting his problems behind him: Bobby Robson watches training yesterday before announcing his squad

Heel raises Robson doubt Bound for home not glory

By Stuart Jones

England team

1 P Shilton (Derby County), P Parker (Celtic Park), T Butcher (Rangers), D Walker (Nottingham Forest), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest), C Woods (Rangers), B Robson (Man Utd), G Stevens (Tottenham), P Gascoigne (Tottenham Hotspur), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest), G Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur), J Barnes (Liverpool).

sake leading the side. But he cannot afford to risk aggravating the injury less than three weeks before the World Cup opens.

Whichever decision is taken, there will be a sense of

uneasiness. If Bryan Robson does play, characteristically he will throw himself into a fixture which could be physically less demanding than the Cup final replay. The Uruguayans, after all, are not renowned for their courtesy or grittiness.

They might not be as committed to aggression as Crystal Palace, but both Scotland and, more recently, Northern Ireland will confirm that they are not averse to using their muscular power.

Thus it would be almost a relief if Bryan Robson is withdrawn and McMahon is selected in his place.

If so, England are likely to drift with the tide, as was the case when McMahon was

Gascoigne's partner against Denmark. When Bryan Robson was guiding the youngster, he scored once and created all three of the other goals against Czechoslovakia last month.

Parker is the lone unexpected selection at right back. Had he not been under suspension, he might have been included against the Czechoslovaks. Had he not been injured, he would have started against the Danes.

The line-up, as intended,

otherwise resembles Bobby Robson's strongest side. Gascoigne, although he has been given the No. 19 in the World Cup squad, has played himself into it, but must maintain his discipline tonight if he is to retain his position in the opening tie against the Republic of Ireland on June 11.

Hodge has been retained on the left flank in a formation which allows Barnes to resume his partnership with Lineker. Individually, they may be the first division's highest goalscorers, but they showed only flashes of a genuine collective understanding in their last appearance together.

The substitutes are to be announced today. McMahon, if not initially required, is certain to be among them, and so will Beardley. His lack of competitive action is beginning to cause concern, even though Bobby Robson insists that he is fit and as lively as usual. "He has not played for six weeks," he said, "but he has sustained his sharpness in training. He has looked at the team for the last two matches and now he wants to fight for his place."

Here, tonight, is predominantly the same side that suffered such shortcomings against Denmark last week. I know Ramsey's men lost at home to Austria 3-2 in 1965 and drew miserably with Poland at Goodison the following January, but that is another story. Ramsey was in a position to be left out Byrne, Milne, Newton, Tambling and Thompson; and four years later, Coates, Kidd, McNab, Sadler, Shilton

and Thompson. Bobby Robson does not have such choices available.

He is, however, heading for the finals with a team unsettled in performance and formation and it is difficult to see how it is going to be put right: either than by accident, as during the 1986 finals.

Looking at the squad of 22 for Italy, it must be said in Robson's defence that there are not too many alternatives.

England is short of good players. The presence of Bull makes that apparent, for there

are many opponents in the

finals who would allow Bull

handily a kick at the ball. Yet

we should not mock our

players for being less good

than we would like them to be.

On the other hand it does not

help to suggest they are better

than they are, as when the

manager talks of Gascoigne

in terms of Maradona.

It is encouraging at least

that a place has been found for

Parker at full back, and maybe he can play himself into the team tonight. England are going to need someone else besides Parker who is a fast tackler. There will be some ball chasing to be done next month.

The preference of Wright to Adams is somewhat academic. Both failed conspicuously in the European Championship two years ago – as did Stevens, still there in

improved a little since then; Wright more than Adams, by all accounts, though I have seen less of Derby. The worry is that Butcher is showing alarming signs of decline and a reserve centre back may well be needed in a hurry.

Just as worrying as the state of the defence, when judged at the higher levels – never mind those unbeaten 17 matches – is the shape of the midfield and attack, which continues to vary.

I do not believe there is room in the same team for Waddle, Gascoigne and Barnes – at least, not this team, given the other uncertainties.

The inclusion of Gascoigne

demands the presence of three midfield ball-winners, Steven,

Robson and Hodge, so as to liberate Gascoigne. At the same time, it will take an extraordinary rush of maturity by Barnes to fulfil a role as Lineker's central partner and successor to Beardsey.

Against Denmark, Barnes was often pretty but irrelevant; always doing clever things, seldom finding an end-product. The invisibility, on the night, of Waddle was part of the problem, no one besides Lineker making runs to open spaces for Barnes to give the ball. Besides, Barnes is supposed to be running to Gascoigne's pass.

These rhythms, absent in friendly matches, are not suddenly going to crystallize when the chips are down in cup-ties.

If the Uruguayans, potential semi-finalists, are serious tonight, England will learn how difficult it can be to find the ball. Talking of Uruguay in the semi-finals reminds me that Clement Freud, who once used to write about football as well as cookery, owes me a fiver from 1970. In Mexico, he bet against them to reach that stage. They are always skilful.

Gallagher to sign for Leeds

By Keith Macklin

LEEDS Rugby League Club yesterday announced the signing of John Gallagher, the New Zealand rugby union full back, on a five-year contract. Alf Davies, the Leeds chief executive, said: "This is beyond doubt the biggest ever signing from rugby union."

Davies would not confirm the sum of money involved, though it is believed to be between £300,000 and £400,000. News of the deal, to be announced with the player at Headingley on Friday, leaked out in New Zealand.

Gallagher became interested in Gallagher when he came to Britain on tour at the end of last year. David Ward, the Leeds coach, flew out to New Zealand, ostensibly to visit another player on the club's books, but in fact began negotiations with Gallagher.

When the concept of 16 four-day games was heavily defeated at the spring meeting, the thrust of the case against was lack of revenue and membership interest due to lost playing days. As the compromise plan, which still contained 14 three-day games, provided each county with

two additional days of cricket, even those whose vision of the future extends no further than the last column in the balance sheets, could surely find no financial grous on which to block it.

This time, the argument against even minor reform was still more tenuous. According to Alf Davies, chairman, Ruman Subba Row made it plain he would not use his optional vote to settle a split decision. His reasoning was that this meeting was called by members, rather than the board itself. Given that Subba Row has always been one of the most forthright proponents of the four-day game, his reticence can either be translated as honorable or as an abandonment of beliefs.

It is, of course, confusing for the poor old cricket watcher, now asked to fluctuating numbers of three and four-day games. But spectators have not often been the first priority when major policy decisions are taken.

The only four counties to support a wholesale switch in March were Warwickshire, Surrey, Leicestershire and Glamorgan. Yesterday they were joined by Worcester, Hampshire, Nottinghamshire, Somerset and MCC. The Minor Counties abstained.

New Zealanders neck and neck

By Barry Pickthall

AFTER racing 33,000 miles around the world, Peter Blake's Steinlager 2 and her New Zealand rival, Fisher & Paykel, skippered by Grant Dalton, were slugging it out within sight of each other up the English Channel last night in a cliff-hanging duel at Southampton at the end of the final stage of the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race.

Blake and his crew have won each of the previous stages, and barring last-minute accidents, the 35-hour cushion they hold on elapsed time will give them the overall trophy with ease. What Dalton's crew desperately wants is to deny them a clean sweep. Both yachts were due to reach Southampton early this morning.

When Blake spoke to race headquarters in Portsmouth yesterday, he said, favoured Fisher & Paykel.

Behind them, Merit has built up a 68-mile lead over Rothmans after the winds deserted the British maxi on Sunday, but ran into problems herself when the lower starboard shroud broke the same day.

This is the third reported incident of broken rigging during this last testing stage.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 13.36 GMT yesterday with miles to Southampton): Maxi divisions equal 1. Steinlager 2 (P. Blake, NZ) and Fisher & Paykel (G. Dalton, NZ). 2. Rothmans (I. Smith, GBR). 207-5. Belmont Finland (H. Karkko, FIN). 272-8. The Card (P. Nilsson, SWED). 293-7. Formula 1 (J. Santander, SPAN). 3. Gazelle (V. Lovisa, FIN). 300-2. 4. Ullman (P. Lovisa, FIN). 415-10. Gottrade (J. Herwe, BEL). 594-12. NCS Ireland (J. English, IRE). 625-13. Charles Jourdan (A. Gabay, FRA). 625-13. Safety British Defender (C. G. G. Smith, GBR). 627-13. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113.